Govt. General Zorawar Singh Memorial Degree College, Reasi

Rasyalsi

College Magazine Maiden Issue

2018-19

College Profile

Govt. General Zorawar Singh Memorial Degree College is a flourishing academic community in the heart of Reasi. TheCollege was founded in the year 2003 and has the unique honour of being named after the legendry warrior- Gen. Zorawar Singh. The foundation stone of the College was laid by Dr. Farooq Abdullah, the then Hon'bleChief Minister of J&K State on 6th June, 2002. However, the College was formally inaugurated by the then Chief Minister of J&K State, Jenab Mufti Mohd Sayed on 20th Sept,2003. The College is affiliated to the University of Jammu and imparts instructions in the discipline of Humanities, Commerce, Science and BCA. The College building consists of an Administrative Block, the Science Block, the Anji Block (Lecture Rooms), the Library Block, the Canteen and the Girls' Common Room.

The College is located at Village Mari, at the foothills of Shivaliks, at a distance of 75 km from Jammu and 3 km from Reasi Bus Stand and is situated at the Eastern bank of mighty river-the Chenab.

The College has experienced and dedicated teaching faculty that leaves no stone unturned to impart holistic education to the students at the best of their abilities. An N.S.S. unit is also functioning in the college. The College organises exposure visits, field visits, debates, quiz contests, cultural and science promoting activities frequently. All important national and international days are also celebrated with full zeal and fervour.To meet the needs of demographically diverse student population, the College embraces equity and accountability through measurable learning outcomes and student achievements.

Vision

- To prepare men and women of substance and character.
- To attain and sustain excellence in Higher Education.
- To deliver an outstanding student experience.
- To work together to create a better future for all through education.

Mission

- To impart quality education in order to meet the needs of economy and society.
- To provide a stimulating and active learning environment to achieve excellence.
- To provide enriching co-curricular activities.
- To provide an environment conducive to innovation, creativity and team-spirit.
- Practice and promote transparency, accountability and promoting high standards of professional ethics.

General Zorawar Singh-A Legend

Govt. Gen. Zorawar Singh Memorial Degree College, Reasi has a unique honour of being named after a distinguished and gallant soldier, General Zorawar Singh, who had taken the valour to its new heights.

The saga of this intrepid Dogra General is the stuff that legends are made of. At the same time, his military exploits, his strategic thinking, his brilliant military organisation and extraordinary skill in logistics make the life of Gen. Zorawar Singh an object lesson and inspiration, not just for military historians but also for the contemporary soldiers.

The legendary Dogra warrior who was the architect of present Jammu and Kashmir Rifles, Gen. Zorawar Singh is said to be born on 15 April, 1786 at Kahloor (now Bilaspur), Himachal Pradesh. He, undisputedly, was one of the greatest generals that history has ever witnessed. He was a great military genius, a skilled soldier and commander who conquered Ladakh, Baltistan and Western Tibet, thus adding 35000 sq. km. territory to Jammu and Kashmir.

As a reward to his services, the then ruler of Jammu and Kashmir, Maharaja Gulab Singh entrusted Gen. Zorawar Singh with the administration of Reasi. After the conquest of Kishtwar by Maharaja Gulab Singh, Zorawar Singh was appointed as Governer of Kishtwar. From there he planned the conquest of Ladakh and Baltistan and prepared his Dogra army for these perilous expeditions.

He took his last expedition to Tibet from where he, along with his army, never came back. Gen. Zorawar Singh's great military endeavours were balanced by a life of modesty and restraint. This brave General did not leave behind either vast properties or deep coffers for his descendants- only a legacy of military achievements that made the historians to term him as the "Napoleon of India".

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From The Principal's Desk

Greetings and welcome to the maiden issue of the College magazine : ***Rasyalsi.***

This maiden issue of our College magazine is a milestone that marks our growth, unfolds our imagination and gives life to our thoughts and aspirations. It unleashes a wide spectrum of creative skills ranging from writing to editing and even in designing.

"The mind is not a vessel to be filled, but a fire to be kindled" …… Plutarch.

Rasyalsi, our College magazine kindles the imagination of our learners. Cradled in the lap of nature, swaying from serious thinking to playing with gay abondon, our students are brimming with a zeal for life, empowering themselves with skills and creativity.

This College magazine is platform for the students to showcase their creative abilities. Our vision of knowledge, imagination and innovation is encouraged through this literary piece.

"Somewhere, something incredible is waiting to be known" ---- Carl Sagan

The maiden issue of Rasyalsi is a special edition dedicated to the socio-cultural, historical, economic and environmental aspects of Reasi District. This was done with a purpose to acquaint all the stakeholders about all that is good about this area and also the challenges that are before us.

I congratulate the entire editorial team for their hardwork and dedication in making this dream come true. I am sure, through collaborative effort, we can achieve much more to benefit our students who are the torch bearers of tomorrow.

Dr. S.P. Sarswat
Principal

From Editor's Pen

Dr. Chander Mohan
Sr. Assistant Prof English

It is indeed a matter of pride for me to be associated with the maiden issue of the College magazine of General Zorawar Singh Memorial Degree College, Reasi as an Editor .The most interesting things about the College Magazine of General Zorawar Singh Memorial Degree College, Reasi is the broad diversity of its brain power. It is a hub for a wide range of creative pursuits. There is a vibrant mix of intellectual prowess in the humanities, natural sciences, and social sciences.

The primary purpose of a College Magazine is to inform, engage, inspire and entertain a diverse readership including alumni, faculty, staff, students, parents and other inquisitive minds by presenting an intimate, timely and honest portrait of the District Reasi -- its people, its programmes, its history, its challenges, its resources and its mission. In the originality of its conception, the magazine endeavours to reflect the values and the quality of the institution itself. By maintaining the respect and interest of its readers, the magazine aspires ultimately to inform an update their opinion of the College.

The Editorial Board is committed to maintain the high standard of integrity that has always been characteristic of"Zorawarians" and of the magazine that represents it. While the ultimate purpose of the magazine is to engage and strengthen its readers' association with the College, the institution recognises that it can do so effectively only by earning and retaining the respect and faith of its readers. In this context, the editorial standards are set forth to give readers and contributors a clear idea of what they can and should expect from the magazine.

This issue highlights a span of expertise and the chief impetus is on the word "Reasi". The issue intends to apprise the stakeholders not only of the beautiful natural, religious, historical, ecological, agricultural spots of District Reasi but also of the aesthetic eye in perceiving the same in the form of "Sleeping Lady" i.e. the beauty of the mountains.

Convener's Note

Dr. Rakesh Bharti
Assistant Professor in Education

It gives us immense pleasure to bring you the maiden issue of the college magazine- ***'Rasyalsi'.***

It was really a big challenge to bring the maiden issue of the college magazine by restricting and focusing its content on the theme Reasi. But, it is well said that when the creative minds are pricked and stimulated at the right time, these erupt like a volcano from where flows the *"literary magma"*. The young talented writers of the college stimulated and provided their literary exposure through this maiden issue of the magazine. It is encouraging to see such a great pool of talent among students and faculty.

The vision behind this publication is to engage, enthuse, entertain and enlighten a diverse readership -- including staff, alumni, students, parents and citizens -- by presenting a comprehensive and honest portrait of District Reasi -- its people, its history, its challenges, its resources, its heritage, its tourism, its economy, its geography, its environment and its culture at large. An honest attempt has been made in the publication to reflect the complete picture of the District.

The maiden issue of *Rasyalsi* aspires ultimately to transform the opinion of its readers about the District Reasi and to strengthen their commitment to its welfare and progress. No However, no single issue of the magazine can fully reflect the diversity of such a vast District; it is an earnest effort of the staff and the students to represent the great diversity of interest, opinion, and background inherent in the magazine's readership.

The magazine in the coming years will expand its reach to achieve excellence by being a true representative of the vision and mission of the college.

In the end, I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to our Worthy Principal and Patron of this publication Dr. S. P. Sarswat, for his valuable advice, insightful comments and consistent support. I would also like to put it on record the services of Chief-editor Dr. Chander Mohan for carrying out the necessary editing work and Dr. Suraya Pratap Singh for his valuable advice and technical support. Last but not the least, Editorial Board, College Magazine Committee, Faculty and Students also deserve a special mention for their assistance, co-operation and valuable contribution.

Hope the pages that follow will make an interesting read!

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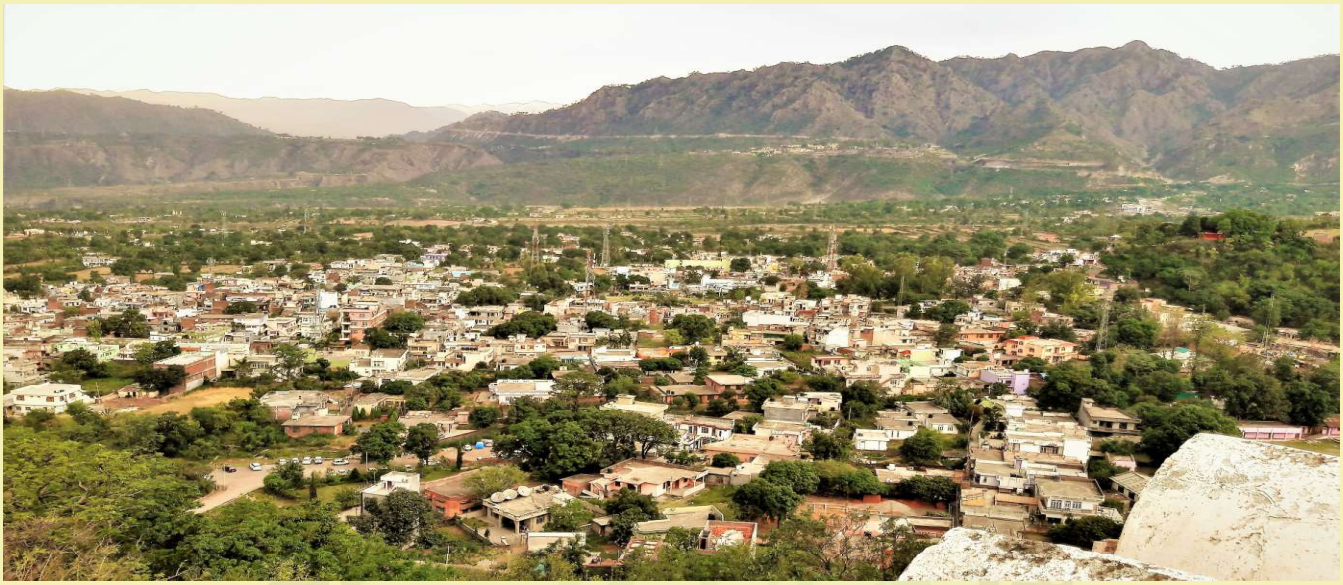
Reasi : Through the Pages of History

Author : Dheeraj Kumar Bhardwaj
Asst. Prof. in History

Reasi is located at a distance of 64 Km from Jammu and it is bordered by Udhampur and Ramban District in the east, Jammu district in the south,Rajouri vDisrtict in the west and by Kulgam District on the north.



Reasi was a small Jagir among 22 principalities of Jammu Province before 1846. Eytomologically, the name of Reasi is derived from the First Ruler of this area-Raja Raspal, who had shifted from Bajalta to this place. At that time this place was a cluster of some houses; Raja Raspal converted it into a township and coined its name as Rasyalsi after his name. With the passage of time the name changed from Rasyalsi to Reasi. Earlier, this area was known as Bhimgarh State which was established by Raja Bhim Dev around 8th century AD.

The year 1816-17 constitutes another landmark in the history of Reasi. At that time, Reasi was ruled by Mian Dewan Singh. He was suspected to be indulged in the conspiracy against the Lahore Darbar and an accomplice in the murder of Mian Mota , a noble at Lahore Darbar. Therefore, Maharaja Ranjit Singh wanted to take back his territory by way of punishment and confer it on to one who was loyal to him. The man chosen was Gulab Singh, and he took the possession of the place without much effort, as Mian Dewan Singh was away in the plains at that time. A new fort namely Bhimgarh was soon built there, and placed under the supervision of Zorawar Singh Kahluria, a trusted Commander of Gulab Singh. A few years later, this fort was threatened by the old Jagirdars of Reasi. But the timely help extended to Zorawar Singh by Gulab Singh's deputy from Jammu to curb the conspiracy of the Jagirdars. After some time Gulab Singh himself arrived at Reasi and cut Surto Bhagial, the chief leader of the supporters of Dewan Singh into pieces to set an example.

By the time ,Gulab Singh became the Maharaja of Jammu and Kashmir on March 16, 1846. Reasi principality was then dissolved in newly created state of Jammu and Kashmir. In 1904, Reasi attained the status of a District and the erstwhile Rajouri Prinicipality of Jaral Raja was merged with District Reasi. In 1950, the status of Reasi Wazarat was reduced to Tehsil by Seikh Mohd Abdulla Government and as such Reasi became one of the Tehsils of Udhampur District.

Time took its turn, and the Historic Reasi regained the status of District in 2007 as a result of persistent untiring efforts of the people of Reasi. Now, the District is divided into 9 tehsils, 22 Niyabats, 12 blocks with 147 Panchyat Halaquas.

Bhim Garh Fort : A Witness to the History

Author: Raman Kumar Sem 6th
Mentor: Prof. Dheeraj Kumar Bhardwaj
Asst. Prof. in History

The name of Reasi is derived from the 1st Raja Raspal of this area, who had shifted from Bajalta to this place. At that time this place was a cluster of some houses. Raja Raspal converted it into a township and named it as "Rasyalsi" after his name and with the passage of time this name changed from Rasyalsi to Reasi.

Earlier this area was known as "Bhimgarh Principlailty" which was established by Raja Bhim Dev in 8th century A.D. Gulab Singh of Jammu became the Maharaja of Jammu and Kashmir in the light of pact between Brithish Government and Punjab Darbar on 16 March 1846 . Reasi principality was then dissolved in newely created state of J&K . In 1850, Maharaja Partap Singh was born at Reasi. In those days Reasi was prosperous town with unique "Phari" culture. In 1904, Reasi attained the status of District and the erstwhile Rajouri principality of Jaral Rajas was merged with district Reasi. In 1950 the status of Reasi wazarat was reduced to "tehsil" by the Governement of Seikh Mohd Abdullah and became a tehsil of district Udhampur. In 2007, Reasi regained the status of District. It is located 64 Km away from Jammu.

Reasi is famous for its Bhimgarh fort. Bhimgarh fort, popularly known as the Reasi fort, is located in the town of Reasi on a hillock approximately 150 metre high. Initially, the fort was constructed of clay and later on one of the heirs of Maharaja Rishipal Rana, the founder of Reasi, reconstructed it using stone . It was used by the royal family members for taking shelter during emergencies. The renovation of the fort was started by Gulab Singh of Jammu and Kashmir in 1817 and continued till 1841. A new entry gate and a stone wall 01 metre wide and 50 metre long was built all around, thereby making it less vulnerable to attacks.

The main entry gate is made of Baluka stones with Rajasthani carving. The front wall with loopholes is approximately 50 metre long and 01metre wide. This has a statue of the goddess Mahakali and of god Hanuman that symbolise protection and strength against evil.

Within the premises of Bhimgarh fort is an old temple , a small pond, armoury and treasury. There are many rooms of different sizes. After the death of Maharaja Gulab Singh, his heir Maharaja Ranbir Singh and Partap Singh used Bhimgarh fort as treasury and armoury.

In 1989, when the fort was vacated, it was handed over to the Archaeology Department by the State Government. In 1990 Board committee of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Sithapana renovated the fort to make it a tourist place.

After going through a number of earthquakes in the past, the fort is still capable enough to hold its own weight.

The region of Reasi experiences semitropical climate and this place does not get good amount of rainfall during monsoon season. Summers are warm, mild and this is a good time to visit this place. The winters here are eventually harsh and its not the good time to visit.

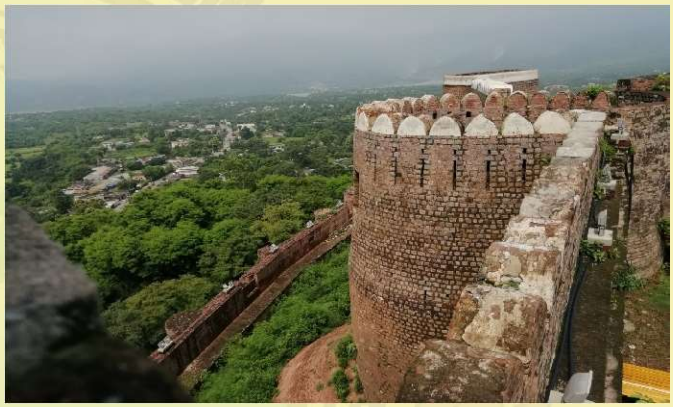
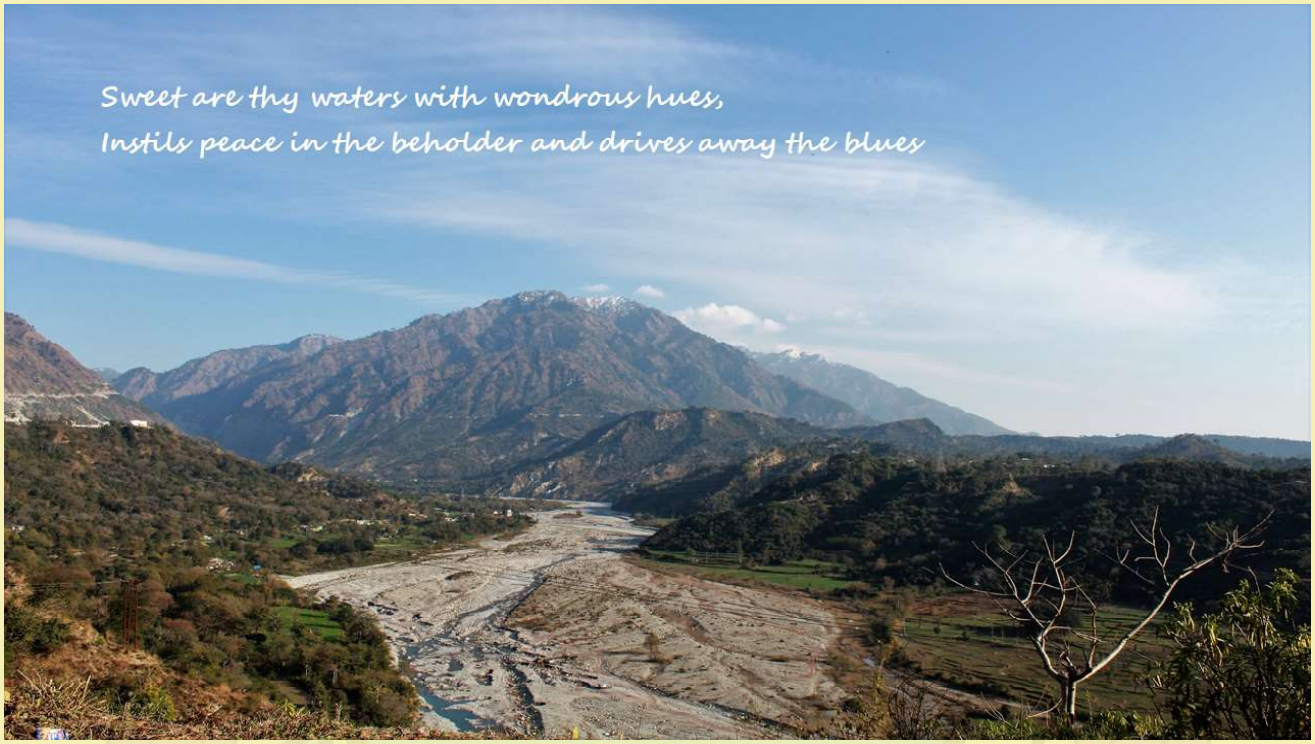
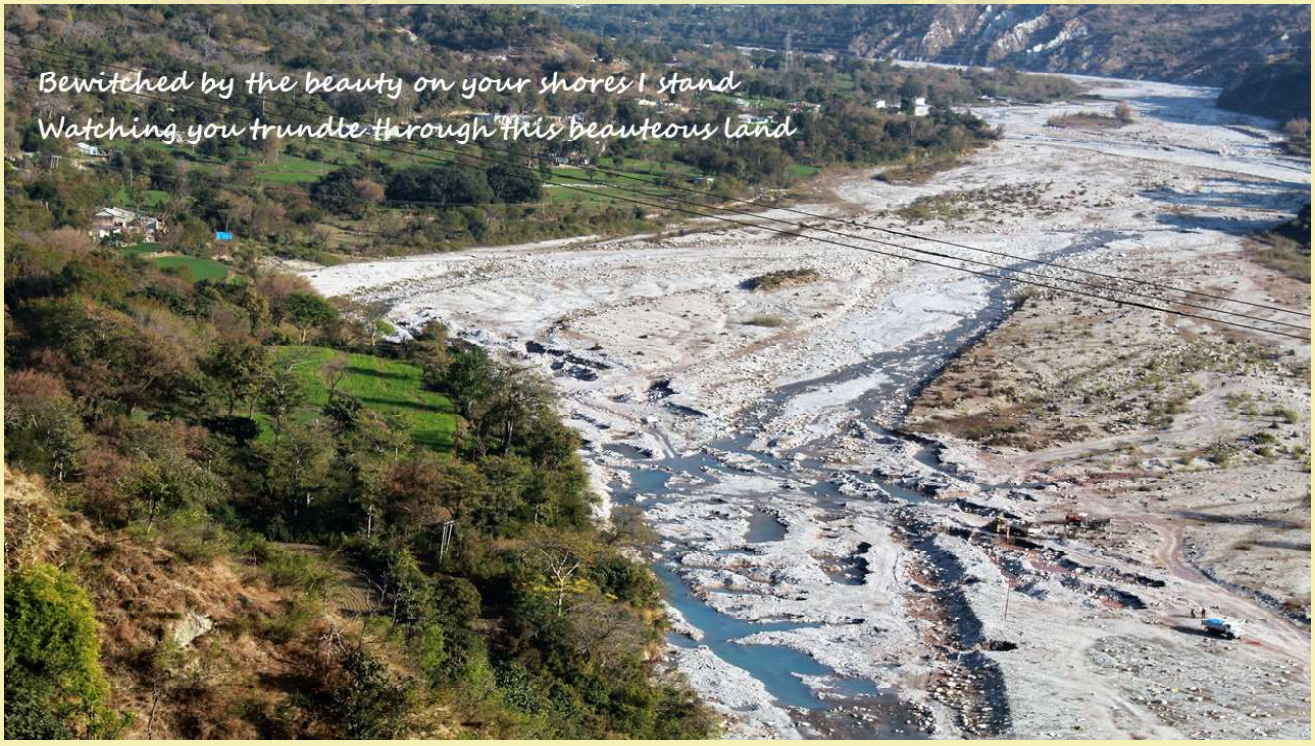


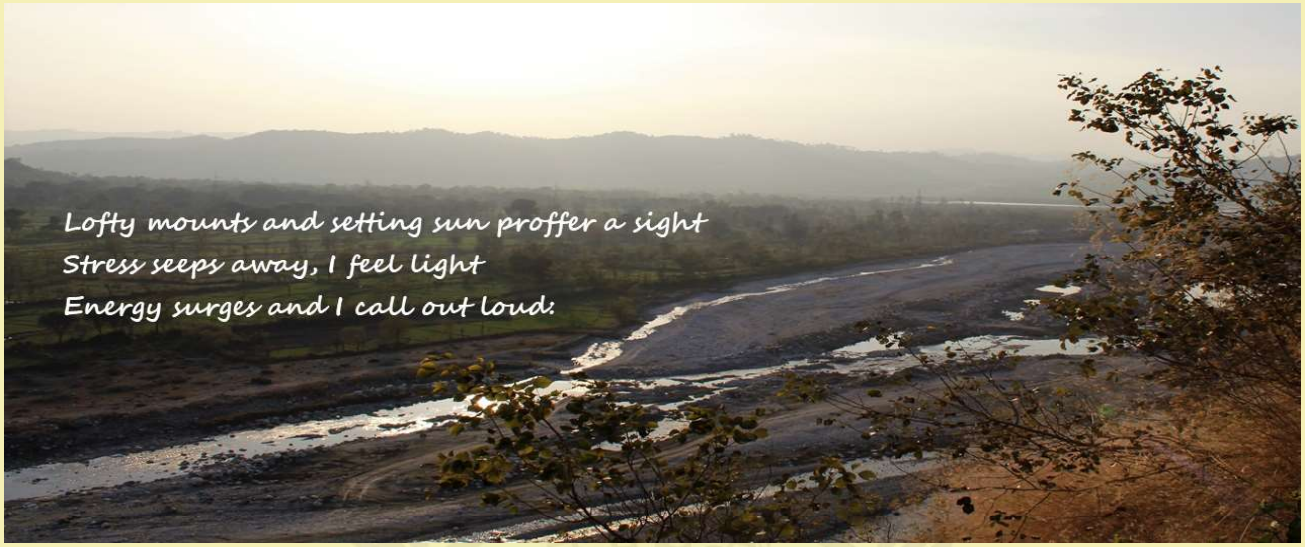
Photo Courtesy :- Kaurab Singh

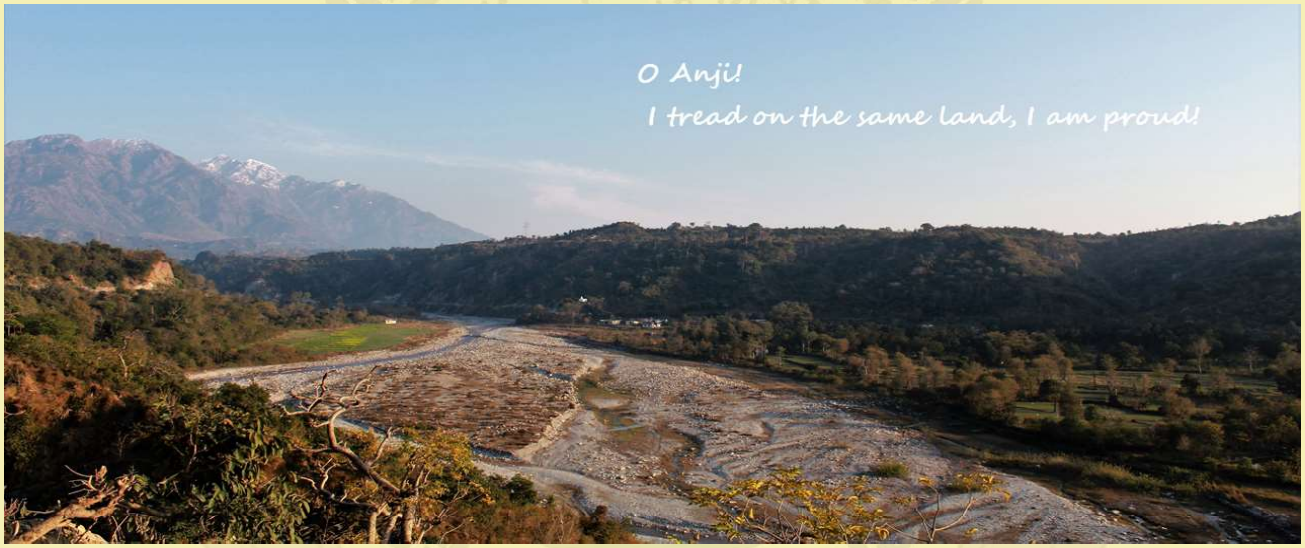
An Ode to Anji

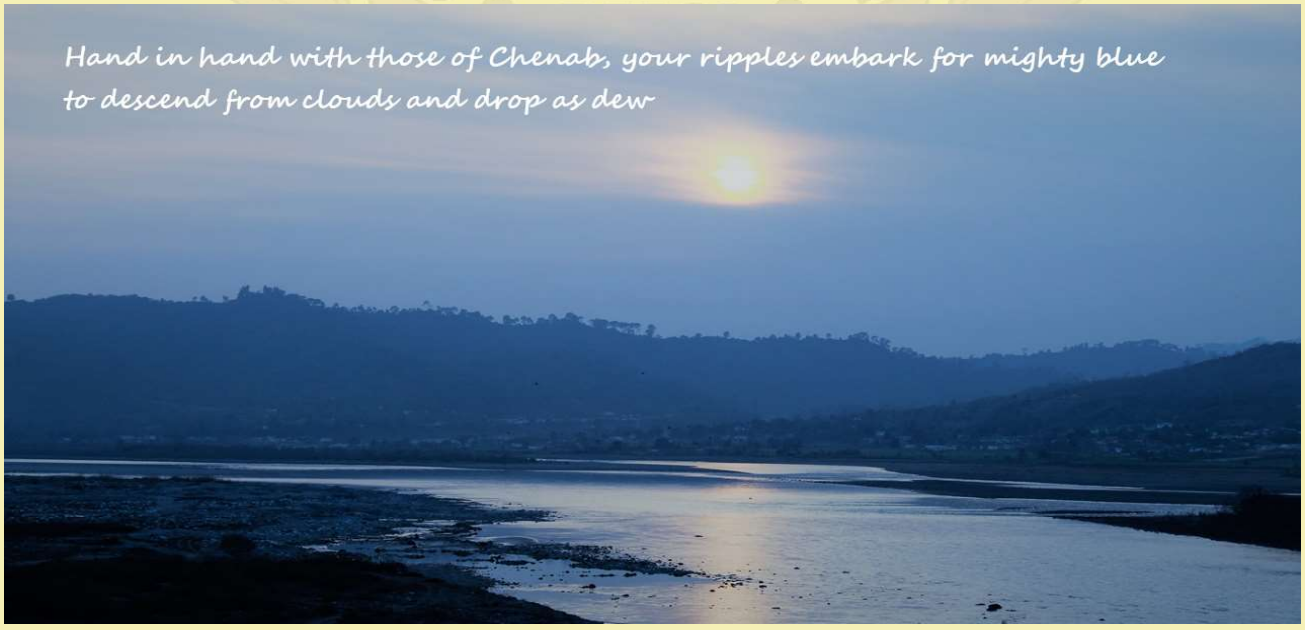
Photo Feature : Kaurab Singh
Asst. Prof. in Biotechnology






Lofty mounts and setting sun proffer a sight
Stress seeps away, I feel light
Energy surges and I call out loud:


O Anji!
I tread on the same land, I am proud!


Hand in hand with those of Chenab, your ripples embark for mighty blue
to descend from clouds and drop as dew

Navratri Festival: A Spiritual Bliss

Authors:Radha Sharma Sem 4th
Bandana Devi Sem 4th
Mentor: Dr Rakesh Bharti
Asst. Prof. in Education

KatraVaishno Devi, as it is popularly known, is a small town in Reasi district in the state of Jammu and Kashmir, situated in the foothills of the Trikuta Mountains, where the holy shrine of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi is located. It is located 42 km from the city of Jammu.

Katra is a prime destination of Jammu and Kashmir tourism. Tourists from all over the world visit this place throughout the year, however, the major attraction remains the “Navratri Festival”.

It is pertinent to mention here that the Navratri Festival is organised usually during the months of September and October by the Government in collaboration with non-government agencies and allied stake holders. It is an opportunity to showcase the rich cultural diversities of Jammu and Kashmir State and to publicise various tourist destinations having huge tourism potential.

Jammu and Kashmir Tourism Department along with local administration, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB), non-governmental organisations and other private players including hoteliers join hands to organise the festival to make it a memorable one for the visitors.

"Navratri" or commonly known as "Navratra" is a combined word which means nine nights (Nav means Nine and Ratri means night). In northern parts of India this festival is celebrated with full devotion and observance of sacred rituals all through the nine sacred days. During the first three days, the goddess is invoked as a spiritual force called Durga, also known as Mahakali or Kalika in order to destroy all human impurities, vices and defects.

During the second three days, the Mother Goddess is adored as a giver of spiritual wealth, Mahalakshmi, the Goddess of wealth, who is considered to have the power of bestowing on her devotees inexhaustible wealth. And the last set of three days is spent in worshipping the Goddess of wisdom, Maa Saraswati.

In order to have all-round success in life, believers seek the blessings of all the three aspects of the divine femininity, hence the nine nights of worship.

In order to showcase and highlight the regional culture, heritage and traditions of the area during this period, the Jammu and Kashmir State Tourism Department organises the Navratri Festival as a mega event to be held during all the nine auspicious days of the Navratris.

A large number of tourists pay their obeisance to the deity during this period. This festival showcases the religious traditions as well as the popular culture of the region among the millions of pilgrims who visit the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine during this period.
As a part of inaugural and culmination ceremony, an attractive ShobhaYatra depicting rich cultural heritage of the State amidst spiritual ambience is also taken out during the festival. In the colourful 'ShobhaYatra,' comprising a large number of pilgrims from across the country and abroad, schoolchildren, cultural troupes and tableaus, usually remain the highlight. Flower petals are showered from a helicopter on the procession.

This festival provides an opportunity to the devotees to have a glimpse of rich cultural heritage and peaceful co-existence of people of different faiths in the region. The festival has a special significance as the sacred shrine of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi attracts a large number of pilgrims from within and outside the country during these days.

Events like devotional song competition, international wrestling competition and laughter shows remain the major highlights of the festival.

The entire 13 km track from Base Camp Katra to Bhawan Complex is given a new look during the festival. On the first day, Chatt Chandi MahaYagya starts at Bhawan Complex which continues all the nine days and concludes on Navmi with "Puran Ahuti". The entire premises of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine is illuminated to give a marvellous and charming look.

As always, on the occasion of festival, the Shrine is decorated with exotic flowers usually imported from different parts of the world like Britain, Switzerland, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Dubai etc. These imported flowers are not only beautiful, but also last longer compared to native flowers. Though, the fragrance of the imported flowers varies slightly from Indian species but they double up the joy and visual delight of the Bhawan on this special occasion for the visitors. These stunning flowers are used to beautify the main temple, some parts of the Bhawan and the original cave. Flowers such as Gladiolus, Carnations, Lilium, Anthurium and Orchids are usually used to decorate the temple.

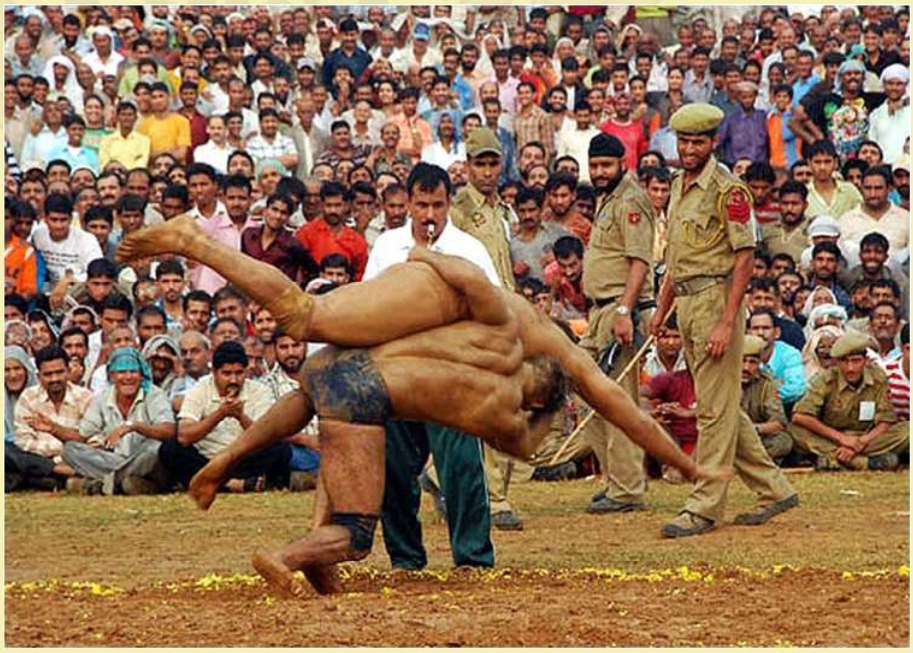
The Bhawan situated on Trikuta hills in the Himalayas is decked up for the occasion right from the shrine and the base camp to the temple town of Katra which creates unique a festive look for the event. The multipurpose sound system is also installed at the Bhawan so that devotees can sing along the recorded tapes and enjoy their journey to the temple.

Another major attraction remains the cultural programmes performed by the renowned artists of the State daily with full fervour and zeal. Religious Discourses (Bhagwat Katha) are also delivered at Shree Raghunath Mandir Katra daily in the evening to enlighten the devotees during the festival.

To woo more visitors and to promote the budding artists, an All India Devotional Song Competition is also organised during the auspicious festival. This event hosts contestants from across the country who progress through different stages of competition to prove their mettle in the field of singing. The mega final is organised at the end. The winner is rewarded with a cash prize and a singing contract with the leading music companies of India.

The visitors also witness the cultural programmes with varied themes based on local lifestyles and traditions during the festival.Besides, holding of cultural and children programmes, debate and drawing competitions, rallies on environmental awareness, yoga display remain the highlights of the festival.

The International wrestling competition is also organised by J&K Indian Style Wrestling Association and wrestlers from countires like Balarus, England, Ukrain and other parts of the world take part in it.



The festival concludes in Dusshera or Vijaydasami and commorates the killing of the two demons Mahishasura and Ravana. Navratri represents the triumph of good over evil.

Devi Pindi: An Unexplored Shrine

Author: Deepika Thakur, Sem II
Mentor: Shweta Magotra (Lecturer in Education)

Devi Pindi is a religious place in the state of Jammu and Kashmir located at about 10 km away from Katra near village Panthal, District Reasi.It is said that Mata Vaishno Devi meditates here for nine months every year and rest of the three months resides at main shrine of Vaishno Devi.The holy shrine could be termed as a clone to the original Shree Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine.There are three Pindian or three naturally existing bulges in the mountain represents the goddess. One can visit the place and worship the "PINDI ROOP" of Mata Vaishno Devi.

The way to Devi Pindi is a 5 km trek that starts from Village Panthal.The journey is very exciting with great landscape and natural water fountains flowing along the path. The path is cut from Himalayan Mountains. There is no particular track laid down, so one has to move alongside the open drain that is carrying the natural fresh water flowing from inside the mountains. One has to walk or rather balance on one of the drain sidewalls, on one side of which is the deep valley and on the other side, a mountain wall. This makes the trek more challenging to walk and cannot be considered as easy task but the amazing variety of flora and fauna along the side of natural running

water and beautiful mountains makes the path more attractive and presents a thrilling view of nature. Before the trek of 5 km is over one is convinced as to how beautiful nature can be.Huge Peaks and Hillocks overpower ones existence as one progresses in the journey.

The Beautiful and challenging 5 km journey to Devi Pindi ends at the temple located at the top of the mountain. After Holy Darshan of "PINDI ROOP" of Mata VaishnoDev at Devi Pindi, one can get inner peace and serenity.

Religious Places in Reasi District

Authors:
Kamiya Thakur, Poonam Sharma and Archana Shamra
Mentor- Swati Dutt
Asst. Prof. in Sociology

Reasi is one of the oldest towns of Jammu and Kashmir State. The name of Reasi is derived from the name of first raja of this area, Raja Raspal. Raja Raspal converted Reasi from a small village, consisted of cluster of some houses, to a township and named it as Rasyalsi after his name. Earlier Reasi area was known as Bhimgarh Principality which was established by Raja Bhim Dev in 8th century A.D. Reasi got status of District in 1904. But in 1905, the status of Reasi as a District was reduced to tehsil and the area was merged with district Udhampur. In 2007, again Reasi became district. It is located at distance of 72 Km from Jammu city on the Northern side.

Reasi district is known for number of historical places, which have cultural and religious significance. These include-

Vaishno Devi

The holy shrine of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi, is considered to be one of the sacred pilgrimages. Shri Mata Vaishno Devi mandir is a Hindu temple dedicated to the Hindu Goddesses located in Katra at Trikuta (Trikoot) Mountains. The holy cave attracts millions of devotees every year across the country. The yatris undertake a trek of nearly 12 Km from the base camp at Katra to seek the blessings of Mother Goddesses inside the holy cave. The Goddesses in the cave are in the form of three natural rocks, known as Pindis of - Goddess Laxmi, Goddess Saraswati and Goddess Maha Kali. Important Places en-route Mata Vaishno Devi are- Ban Ganga, Ardh Kuwari, Charanpaduka, Ganesh Matha and Sanji Chhat. Another en-route place is Bhaironath (popularly known as Bhairo Ghatti) temple. It is believed that yatra of the devotees is never complete without going to Bhaironath temple while returning from the Bhawan.

Aghar Jitto

Aghar Jitto, located 32 Km towards South from district headquarters Reasi, is named after Baba Jitto (originally Jit Mal) the legendary farmer and a devotee of Vaishno Devi. He sacrificed his life to fight against the oppression by landlords.

Every year, three days, Baba Aghar Jitto mela is organised by the District Administration where large number of people come and participate from different parts. A number of events- Aryi, Bhajan-kirtan, Shobha Yatra, plays, local folk

songs and dangal, are organised by the administration. The main attraction of the mela is special performance (theatrical) by the local artists depicting the life and sacrifice of Baba Jitto. Besides, various stalls and exhibition are also organised by different departments (Agriculture, Horticulture, Floriculture etc.) to educate and aware the people to avail the benefits of various governmental schemes and incentives.

Nau Devian

Nau Devian is situated on the Reasi-Katra road about 8 Km away from Katra and 19 Km from Reasi. Earlier it was known by the name Jladi Mata. Nau Devian, a holy cave is known for nine 'devis' (goddesses) in the form of pindis- Shailapurti Devi, Bharmachirini Devi, Chandraghanta Devi, Kushmanda Devi, Skandamata, Katyayani, Maha Kali, Maha Gauri and Siddhidatri.

Baba Dhansar

Out of the many holy places near Katra, in Reasi District, exists the place of Baba Dhansar. The holy place of Baba Dhansar is located 17 Km from Reasi at Karua Jheel near Karua village, in Reasi District of Jammu and Kashmir.

The significance of the place is based on the local belief that in the ancient times there was a demon who lived near Kaura lake and committed various atrocities on the people of the village Kaura. The villagers then took the help of Baba Dhansar to get rid from the atrocities which were committed by the Demon. It is, then, believed that Baba Dhansar prayed to Lord Shiva for help. Lord Shiva had arrived and helped in killing the Demon. The temple of Baba Dhansar and a cave of Lord Shiva has become a place of worship near Kaura Jheel.

As the place is associated with the Cave of Lord Shiva, a large number of devotees visit this place every year on the eve of Maha Shivratri when an annual Mela is organised.

Shiv Khori

Shiv Khori, situated in Reasi District of Jammu and Kashmir, is a famous shrine cave of Hindus devoted to Lord Shiva. Shiv Khori is located in Ransoo, a village in the Pouni Block of Reasi District, between the hillocks about 140 Km North of Jammu, 120 Km from Udhampur and 80 Km from Katra.

The word Khori stands for cave (guffa). Shiv Khori thus, denotes Shiva's cave. Shiv Khori is about 200 metre long, one metre wide and 2-3 metre high. It contains a self made lingam which according to people is unending.

On the occasion of Maha Shivratri, a festival associated with Lord Shiva, a three days Mela organised at Shiv Khori every year, where thousands of pilgrims from different parts of the country visit the Shrine cave to seek the blessings of Lord Shiva.

White-water Rafting in Chenab : A Challenge for the Brave- hearts

Author: Dr. Rakesh Bharti
Asst. Prof. in Education

The trend of adventure sports in India is still in its initial phase, but it's catching up fast amongst the young generation. Out of all the adrenaline pumping adventures, river rafting is one such activity that has gained popularity over the last few years. The mighty rivers flowing down from Himalayas make India a top site for rafting. Ideal for anyone who's up for a thrill ride through the gushing waters of rivers, there are plenty of places for river rafting in India. White water rafting in India is almost exclusively confined to the northern rivers which flow southwards from the Himalayas, gushing between densely forested mountains and through steep gorges. Rivers such as the Alaknanda, Bhagirathi, Indus, Zanskar and Teesta offer `raft-worthy' rapids and a trip down a river can be a great experience. Reasi, one of the hilly districts of Jammu and Kashmir has distinction to attract a count of tourists across the globe. It is most sought after place on the tourism map of Jammu and Kashmir. Besides being a popular pilgrimage destination for the Hindus in India, Reasi also offers various other possibilities to its visitors. River rafting in Chenab is another tourist attraction in Reasi district. Rafting in Chenab is a life time experience and tourists love to spend some thrilling time in water after long hours of travel and yatra. The rafting in River Chenab takes place throughout the year and is quite safe for all age groups.

The thought behind White Water Rafting in River Chenab at Reasi has been to provide a thrilling joy/experience to all the White Water Rafting lovers from India and abroad, seeking to explore and experience this Mother of all Adventure Sports, across the country and the Sub-continent. The River Chenab runs through some mesmerising landscapes, giving rafters the opportunity to explore those wonders of nature, which are otherwise unreachable through land routes.

The Rafting usually commences from Gujjar Kothi almost 3 km upstream from Base Camp Baradari Bridge and culminates at Dera Banda Bahadur. However, in toto rafting in Chenab comprises of four stretches. The expert teams of guides adopt all the safety measures and begin the ride with a few relaxing and relatively small rapids. The teams are authorised by Department of Tourism Jammu and Kashmir. Rafting in Chenab is pretty much safe, especially when you try 1.5 km route up to Reasi Bridge where rapids are not that much dangerous. This stretch is especially meant for the children of 5+ and the elderly people of 70+ ages. If one really wants to feel the thrill of rafting, three more stretches are there in the list. One stretch of 3 km starts from Gujjar Kothi and culminates at the Reasi Bridge. This stretch comprises of three rapids two of them are quite fascinating. One is Dragon's Tale and the other is Curve A. Rafters can feel the thrill of both the rapids during Winters as well as Summers. These rapids are ideal for first-time rafters. They include small waves with little or no obstruction and pose no real danger for the people on the raft. These rapids can be enjoyed with the whole family for a fun ride on the water. They have clear passages and require very slight maneuvering.

The second stretch of 10-12 km actually exposes the rafters to more exhilarating rapids. This stretch is filled with lush green surroundings. It starts from Gujjar Kothi and culminates at Dera Baba. It takes more than two hours to reach Dera Baba Banda Bahadur, where rafters can also camp for the night at river bank. It is all about maneuvering the raft through rapids with increased water velocity or turbulence.
Once, the rafters cross the Reasi Bridge there is a flat section of two-kilometer and afterwards rafters venture into the fourth rapid namely Curve B. Here, the rafters experience the thrills of eddies which challenge the guts of the rafters. Adding extra charm to the ride then comes the fifth rapid namely Rigu's T named after Rigu Singh Jamwal, one of the renowned rafters in India.These rapids require precise maneuvering. It is advisable to do a recce of the rapid before navigating it.

Rapids are graded based on the volume of water, the gradient, presence of rocks etc. The Rapids in Chenab are graded from I to III. Rapids graded I and II are the safest and easiest to navigate. Rapids graded III are bit difficult and require precise maneuvering skills and of course the courage and guts to handle curvy, shaky rapids.
Another 25-kilometre rafting stretch from Gujjar Kothi brings the rafters to Akhnoor. This stretch after Dera Baba is mostly flat but rapids in winter add to the charm of rafting down the journey.The calmness of the river, the chirping sound of birds and the sound of the river accompanies the rafters until they reach to Akhnoor.
It is a wonderful experience to try the exhilarating activity of river rafting in River Chenab, and satisfy the passionate adventurist within.

Pump your adrenaline while navigating in an inflatable raft in the icy cold waters of Chenab. Swish past the whirling rapids, gushing water cascades and drift along the river current would really challenge your dare and stamina. Witnessing the alluring beauty of the nature alongside the river bank adds another charm to the journey. At the same time, challenge your fear and face your stamina while rafting through the raging water-body. Break away from the monochromatic schedule of life and add an adventurous colour to it.
The thrill of rafting in the white waters of Chenab is an experience not to be missed. Both beginners and experts can engage in this activity. Adventure junkies will love this place for the mesmerising beauty of the mountains. Moreover, rafting is an activity that will effortlessly get kids off the couch and away from TV, mobile and other digital technology. Rafting will get them up and active, out into nature, breathing fresh air, connecting with each other while appreciating the natural beauty of their surroundings and having the time of their lives. River environs hold within them a certain indefinable mystery for the youngsters and the adults alike.
Indeed, there is something invigorating about steering your way through the gushing waters on an inflatable boat!

The Mountains of Reasi: An Unexplored Treasure

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Reasi is a town, situated at the bank of river Chenab and is the headquarter of the Reasi district. Reasi is located at 33° 05N 74° 50 E/ 33.08° N 74.83° E. It has an average elevation of 466 meters. It is predominantly a hilly district, which enjoys variable climatic conditions, ranging from sub-tropical to the semi-temperate. Geographically, we can divide the district into Hilly' and rich ores of bauxite, iron and precious stones.

Geological Survey of India, during its preliminary investigation of the limestone deposits of J&K recognised the famous "Great limestone belt running from Reasi to Poonch valley in a chain of large and small linliers, H.B.Medlicott and R.R.Sumpson were amongst the first to examine the limestone belt and they described it as crypto-crystalline, cherty ,dolomite and unfossilferous, called it the "Great limestone and assigned Jurassic age" to this formation. This area is a part of elongated anticlinal dome, commonly called "Reasi Dome. The younger formation appears along the north-eastern, North-western and South-eastern sides of the dome. The Southern limb of the dome is faulted bringing the limestone in juxtaposition with the Shiwaliks. This limestone belt lies between Muttal (Tehsil Udhampur) on the South-east and Salal (Tehsil Reasi) on the North-west covering a total distance of approx.20 miles. For descriptive purpose the area has been divided into 3 sectors, of which one lies in the District Udhampur and two in District Reasi. These two sectors are:

(A) KATRA- CHIMIARA SECTOR:

The area consists of the Great Limestone and Shiwalik formation, the two being separated by the main boundary fault. Only the lower Shiwaliks, comprising buff coloured sandstone with interbedded brownish clays are seen in this area. The limestone seen in Katra area is generally of bluish grey colour and is massive. Some brownish bands of argillaceous limestone are noticed north-east of Katra. These bands are half an inch to one inch thick and are seen interbedded with the bluish grey limestone in a regular manner giving a stripped appearance. Some cream and white coloured cherty bands are also noticed very commonly in this area, specially in Balganga nala section, where cherty bands are seen forming the outer rings. The limestone of Kunian, Trikuta Devi and Chimiara section are similar to that of Balganga Nala section.

(B) ANJI SALAL SECTOR:

This sector includes the area between Anji and Salal. The main town in this area is Reasi which is connected to Jammu by a motor able road and is at a distance of 50 miles from it.

The formation exposed in the area is upper Shiwaliks and the great limestone, separated by the

limestones scree, crushed limestone zone is seen at a few places but is not a regular features. The upper Shiwaliks consists of coarse-grained, grey coloured sandstones with a few conglomeratic bands.

Nummulitics are seen North of salal. These comprise coal measures, olive Shales and a few thin lenticular limestone bands. Large reserves of good quality bauxite are also separated to the

present in this area. Limestone is generally of bluish grey colours of varying shades. Some dark coloured bands are noted in the North of Aghar and Garan. Limestones is generally massive but some crushed bands are also seen at places. Shaly limestone, is noted in Anji Nala section.

Flaggy, dark coloured limestone is seen in the Serli Gali section while Flaggy limestone with dark, yellowish and reddish colour is seen in Salal-Bida section. Elephant- skin like weathering is common in this area. Ferruginous, hard, quartizite bands are noticed in Salal and Barkundi Gali section. These bands are however are interbedded with limestone bands.

It is clear from investigations done on the sample of these different sectors that besides a minor occurrence at Aghar, only one band of limestone suitable for cement manufacture has been located near Salal, in the entire 20 miles long belt of the great limestone. A major part of this belt is unsuitable for the manufacture of Portland cement on account of the high percentage of MgO.

Siar Baba Waterfall

Author : Parshotam Singh, Sem- 6th
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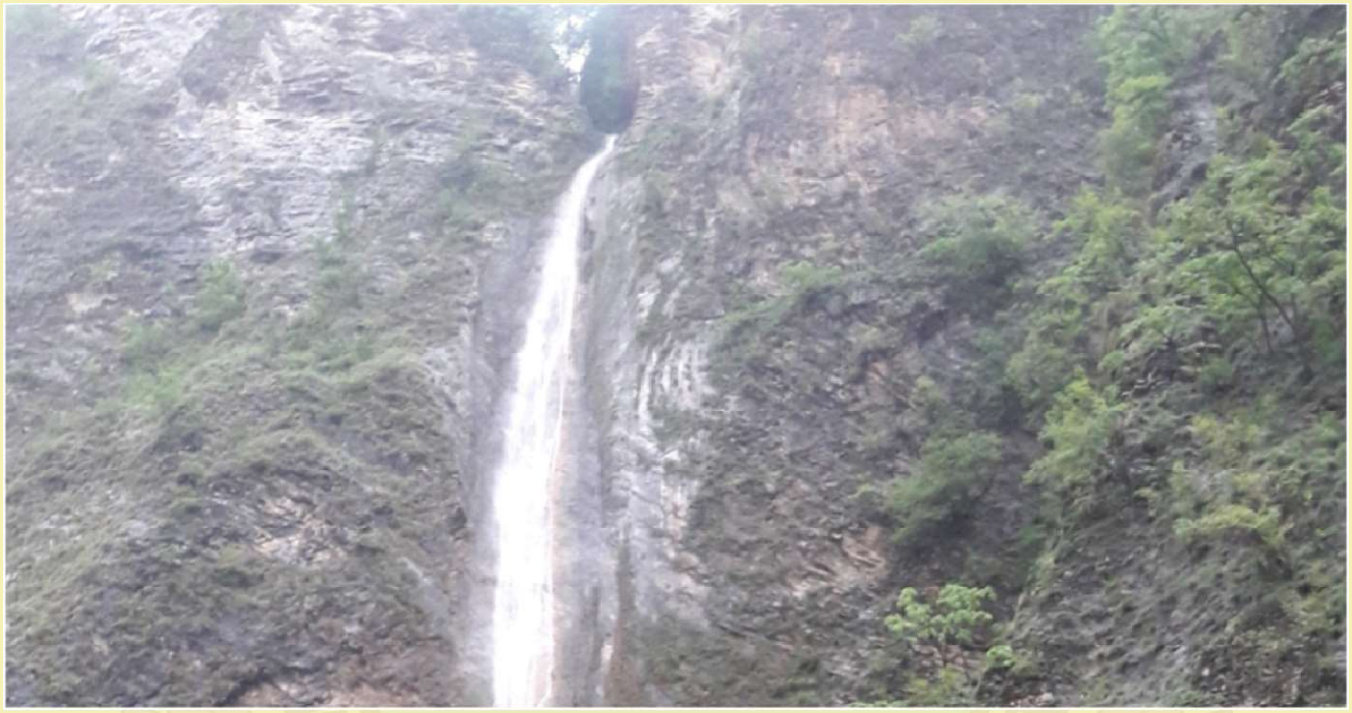
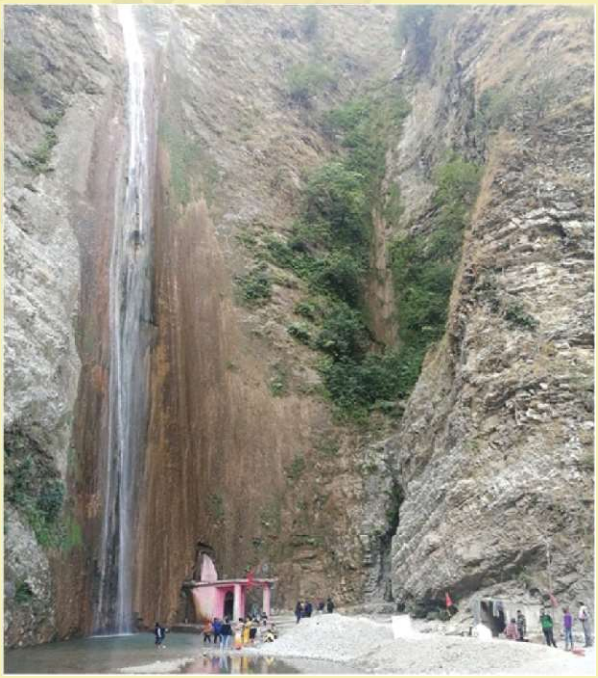


India has a number of beautiful waterfalls where one can enjoy the water cascading down the steps and making a soothing sound to please the soul. Siar Baba Temple Waterfall is one of the beautiful waterfalls in the list. It enjoys the status of one of the biggest waterfalls in North India. It is located on the Chenab River about 10 km from the town of Reasi, in Talwara village and around 40 km from Katra. It is one of the most striking tourist attractions of the city.

The beauty of this waterfall gushing down from the enormous height of 100 feet makes a spectacular view. The waterfall wears a fabulous look creating the aura of light mist amid the lush green hills. The clean and chilled water and the gurgling sound of the fall add another bit of perk to the beauty of the fall.
The fall is surrounded by the beauty of green trees and huge cliffs. The tranquility and freshness in the atmosphere takes away all the fatigue. It is an ideal spot for the picnic with family or friends.



Although now considered a tourist spot these days, the place actually has religious significance. Baba Siar used to meditate at this place and a temple of Baba is also constructed on the spot. This place is also considered as a resting place of Nag Devta. Thousands of devotees come to pay their homage to

Baba Siar throughout the year.The soothing balm of earth found around the temple cures different skin eruptions. Bathing here is an exhilarating experience.

However, people are not allowed to bathe under the waterfall after the July 2018 tragic incident in which eight people were killed and more than 30 were injured when a boulder rolled down and hit people bathing under the waterfall. Even then tourists throng the place in big numbers. It is a delight for tourists.

Sleeping Lady: A Beauty of the Mountains

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Nature can reveal its beauty in all places and at all times to the eye that knows how to look for it. Reasi is known for its magnificent beauty of Mid Himalayan Mountains. There is something humbling about these mountains. May be it is their tall and grandiose appearance or the initial intimidation when one casts one's eyes on it.

Lush green mountains and Chenab River in between them adds extra charm to the flamboyant beauty.

However, the Sleeping Lady Mountain is a special attraction for the nature lovers visiting at Reasi. It is a mountain ridge located west of the town Reasi.The mountain looks like a lady sleeping with open hairs and lying straight at the top of the peak. It does indeed look like one. She is a range of hills which form parts of her: her head, her face, her mouth and her bosom. She is stunning, her face perfect and her whole being so seemingly alive as it feels as though at any moment she could wake, rise up and walk.

The view of a lady sleeping straight with all the majesty is clearly visible from different points of the town Reasi. The lady has a wonderful view at a place near Jyotipuram popularly known as View Point.

Residents' Perceptions toward Tourism Development: A Case Study of Katra Town, Reasi

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In today's competitive world, tourism has become one of the significant drivers that lead to the development of programmes, projects and other activities to improve the host economies. Tourism, which is among the largest industries in the world, is the interaction between varied stakeholders such as tourists, local residents, tourism providers, etc. Tourism includes each and every element that a tourist goes through at a destination such as visiting, learning, entertaining, interacting and so on.

Tourism industry, on the one hand, plays an important role in enhancing the country's GDP, on the other hand, this industry involves number of challenges for the host economy. One such challenge include gaining the support of local residents towards tourism development process. Since the success of tourism, to a greater extent, depends upon the support of host residents', it becomes essential to determine their opinions and perceptions towards tourism. Hence, the present study aims to determine the local residents' perceptions of tourism in a Katra town of district Reasi.

Image 1 : Banganga Entry of Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine

Katra is one of the major tourist attractions located in Reasi District of Jammu & Kashmir. Every Indian who believes in God will visit Katra at least once in his/her lifetime. Katra is popular for Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine.

Image 2 : Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine

Katra is the base point to start a 12 km long walk to touch the holy feet of the Vaishno Devi Mata perched in the snow fed caps of the Shivaliks. Table 1 depicts the annual number of yatries visiting the Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine.

Table 1: Annual Yatra Figures from 2010 to 2018

S. No.	Year	No. of Yatries (in Lakhs)
1	2010	87.49
2	2011	101.15
3	2012	104.95
4	2013	93.24
5	2014	78.03
6	2015	77.76
7	2016	77.23
8	2017	81.78
9	2018	85.87

Source:www.maavaishnodevi.org/yatra_statistics

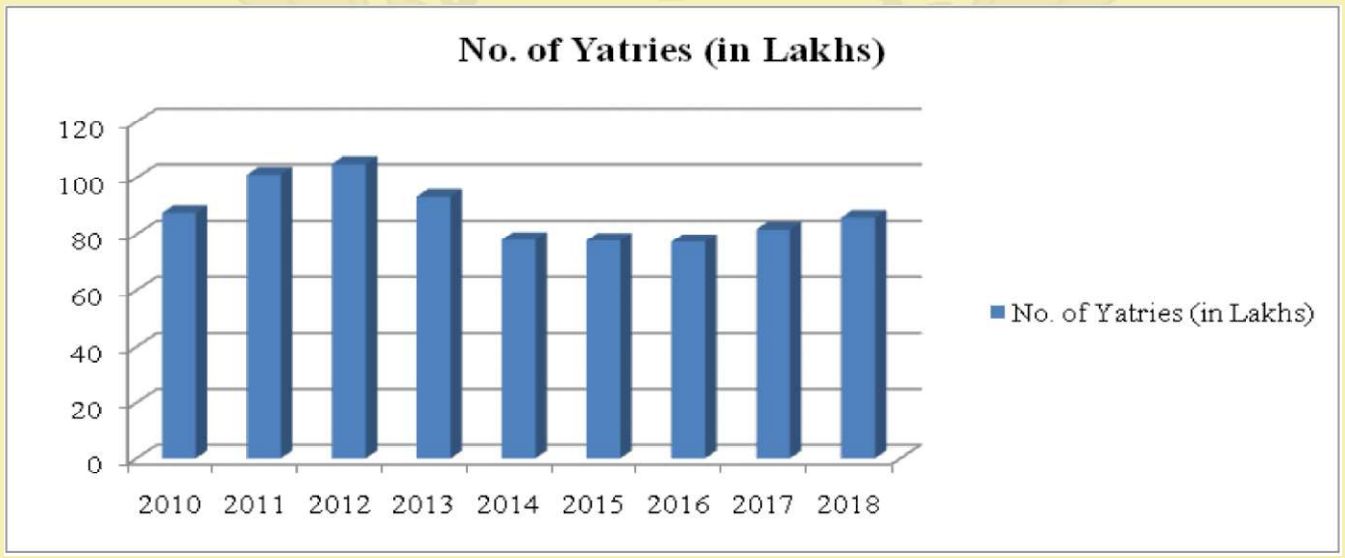

Figure 1: Number of Yatries (in Lakhs) Visiting the Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine from Year 2010 to 2018

As we can see in the Figure 1, the number of yatries visiting the Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine has increased from 2010 to 2012 but after 2012 to 2016, there has been decrease in number of yatries. But due to efficient management of Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, the number of yatries has increased in 2017 and 2018.

Image 3: Market of Katra

To assess the perception of host community, a questionnaire consisting of 30 items was used. A sample of 50 households of Katra town was selected using convenience sampling. In order to explore the relationship between residents' attitude towards social, economic and environmental impact of tourism, descriptive statistics namely- mean (MV) and percentage (%) are used. The results suggest that respondents believe that socio-cultural impact of tourism (MV= 3.61) is more on community which is followed by economic (MV=3.49) and environmental (MV= 3.36) impacts (Figure 2).

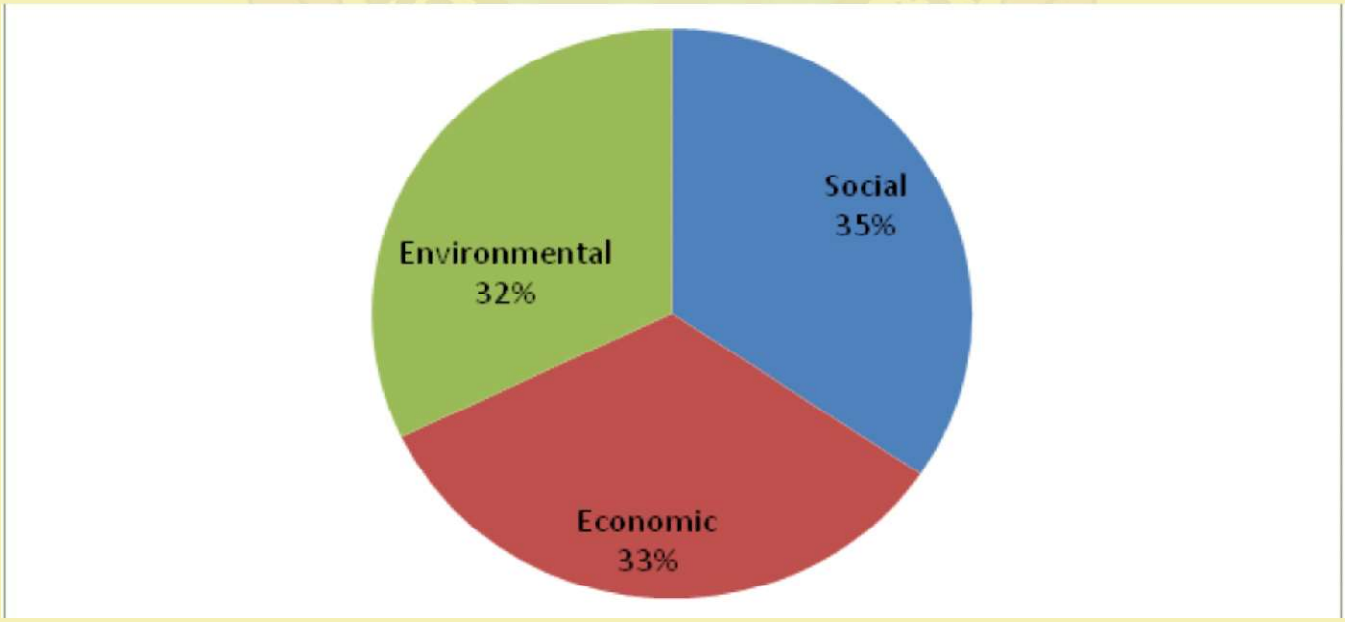

Figure 2: Pie Chart showing Katra residents' perception towards social, economic and environmental impact of tourism

Regarding socio-cultural impacts of tourism, 46.4% of respondents robustly feel that tourism encourages a variety of cultural activities (MV=4.07) in the community. Further, the residents of Katra believe that change in their life style has occurred due to tourism development (MV= 4.04). The local residents also agree that tourism has accelerated social evils in the community (MV= 3.29). With respect to, economic impact, 57.1% of respondents agree on the fact that tourism development has improved the quality of local services (MV= 3.46). The mean (MV= 3.71) and percentage (=46.4%) values indicate that variety of shopping facilities in Katra town is available due to tourism. On the negative side, local residents believe that tourism has caused increase in prices (MV=3.39). This might be because of the reason that the local residents think that the tourism/service providers want to take more economic advantage from the tourists. This ultimately have the side effect that is, pricing of goods is such that it is above the economic reach of local residents. Concerning environmental impact, the study findings reveal that tourism development may negatively affect the natural environment by traffic congestion and pollution (MV=3.39), increasing litter and garbage (MV=3.50), illegal construction (MV=3.29) and loss of agricultural land (MV=3.29). On the positive side, the host community perceive that tourism industry holds great promise (MV=3.14) and will continue to play a major role in the community's future ((MV=3.89).

Hence, the findings of the study reflect that local residents of Katra town have both positive and negative perceptions towards tourism development.

Human Wildlife Conflict in Reasi: The Roots of Conflicts And Co existence

Authors: Kajal Kumari, Pooja and Meenakshi Devi Sem 4th
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As human communities expand and natural wild places shrink, people and wildlife are coming into conflict over living space and food. The population density of wildlife and human overlaps, increasing their interaction thus increasing conflict that leads to potentially destructive threat for both man and animals. This is called Human wild life Conflict (HWC).Human wildlife conflict is one of the most critical threats to the survival of most of the species. HWC has occurred since the dawn of humanity but these conflicts have become more frequent and severe over recent decade as a result of many factors which have together led to increased human encroachment on previously wild and uninhabited areas.

Year	Number of Persons injured in conflict	Number of Persons killed in conflict
2011-2012	562	40
2014-2015	232	17
2015-2016	284	26

Table : 1.1
HWC in J&K state in past few years

Human Wildlife Conflict in Reasi

Black bear, common leopard, snow leopard and monkeys are generally found to involve in man-wild animals conflicts. Women working in the fields/ forests for grazing their animals, collection of minor forest products and collection of firewood and fodder become the main target for wild animals. Wild animals attack livestock, damage crops thus causing economic losses for the local people. Human settlements in or around forest, near the source of water cause human and wildlife conflict. It has increased in the state in recent years. Decreasing forest cover, shrinking wildlife habitats, forest fires, change in land-use topography, grazing in forest land, shortage of food and water in the region, habitat fragmentation cause these conflicts. Decreasing prey base leads big cats to venture into human areas to prey on domestic cattle.

Amid fast depleting forest cover in far flung Mahore area of Reasi, several incidents of man-animal conflict have been reported in last few months2015.

26th July Waseem Akhtar of Chassana attacked by Leopard and died. 31st August, Bashir Ahmed and Janu Begum R/O Balmakote were mauled to death by Leopard.15th September Mohd Farooq was attacked by Bear and died. Sept. 2015 a girl (20 yrs) of Badder, Mahore attacked by Leopard. 16th Sept. Shaheen Akhter was carried by Leopard and was found dead.31st Oct. Feroz Ahmed died due to Leopard attack. Feb, 2016, a 14 year boy was attacked by Leopard in Tulli August 2017, two girls (11 and 15 yrs) were mauled to death by Leopard in Reasi.

2018: In Sept., 2 girls (22 and 11 yrs.) of Mahore and Bagodass were mauled to death by Bear in Reasi. In the month of October a Man (35 yrs) was attacked by Bear.

Recently, Dec. 2018, a leopard believed to be man eater was killed by people in Mahore belt of Reasi district. The Leopard had killed two boys 3yrs and 8 yrs respectively. The leopard ventured into Jamlan village from the nearby forest and pounced on Wasim Akram (3 yrs.) on Dec 18 when he was outside his house and dragged him away. Same leopard had earlier struck in Kansoli village of Mahore belt on December 08 and had mauled to death 8-year-old Rehmat Ali. A major search operation was launched to track down the beast. The leopard had ventured into the Sarh Village in Mahore area in search of its prey. An attempt was made to capture the leopard by the wildlife team and the authorities but it avoided the traps laid at various places and it attacked the team prompting them to open fire. In March 2013, a leopard was killed by Police in Reasi near Shiv Khori after it attacked and injured 4 people.

Leopard killed by wildlife Team in Mahore area.

A man attacked by Bear in Reasi

A girl injured in Bear attack

Leopards by nature tend to stray into the habitations in search of their kill. Since herbivorous animals have descended to the lower slopes, their predators have followed them. Their natural prey is becoming rare in the forests and the omnipresent cattle and dogs in the vicinity of the villages on the periphery of forest brings them in close conflict of the human beings.

Leopard Killed by wildlife authorities in Mahore

Crop damage and Losses by wild animals

In Block Pouni, Dist. Reasi is facing unusual threat from hungry wildlife because of declining forest habitats these animals are also causing substantial losses in the horticulture sector. Animals are harming livestock, crop and humans.

Major crops like Maize, Wheat, Rice and vegetables covering more than 15600 hectares of agricultural land in Jammu, Udhampur, Kathua and Reasi get damaged annually by Monkeys. Hungry monkeys raid farms as forests are shrinking threatening food security for small farmers living in forest areas. Since 1991, region has lost 11750 hectares of forest land to road construction alone.

Vanishing springs and small streams is pushing wild animals into villages close to the dwindling forests where they scavenge for food and water.

Local people have been calling for Gun licence and for sterilization of monkeys. Farmers have no choice but to find their own way of coping with the growing crop damage and safety menace from wild animals.

Monkey menace in Reasi: Hungry Monkeys damaging crops

The tools employed by the government in reducing the Man and Wildlife Conflicts are highly insufficient and hence not producing desired results. If we think that paying a few hundred or thousands rupees to a person as compensation for crop damages by monkeys or wild pigs or for a cattle killed by a leopard would save our wildlife from getting poisoned or shot, then it is nothing but our shortsightedness. Such hardships discourage the farmers and in the process he gets encouraged to take the law into his own hands and to settle scores with his tormentor- the wildlife. There are only losers on both the sides. People lose their crops, livestock, property, and sometimes their lives. The animals, many of which are already threatened or endangered, are often killed in retaliation or to 'prevent' future conflicts.

Potential Solutions

Potential solutions to these conflicts include electric fencing, land use planning, community-based natural resource management (CBNRM), compensation, and payment for environmental services, ecotourism, wildlife friendly products, or other field solutions. An effective strategy needs to be adopted to reduce wildlife- human conflicts. There is need to preserve and conserve forests and provide natural habitat to wild animals so that they don't sneak into human settlements. The Forest Department and the Department of Soil Conservation have launched a programme to revive traditional ponds in forest areas, as well as constructing new ponds and stone dams to hold mountain run-off water that recharges springs. The Department of Social Forestry is also trying to revive degraded forests and wasteland. All these efforts should be taken up seriously at priority basis.

All- civil society, NGOs, youth and above all, local community residing around the forests must come forward and play their role in conserving forests to prevent unfortunate incidents of man-animal conflict. In other words, man will have to learn to live in coexistence with wildlife in order to provide natural habitat to the wild animals to avoid such attacks.

Ecological Thread in the Sacred Fabric: Sacred Groves in Reasi

Author: Dr. Anshu Gupta
Asstt. Prof. in EVS

The people residing in mountainous regions followed the principle of Spirituality as the basis of conservation which is reflected in the form of Nature worship. Likewise Natural resource conservation in these areas was based on the role of "Sacred". These practices led to the evolution of Sacred Groves, which are patches of virgin forests dedicated to local deities and may range from a few trees to several acres of forest land contributing in the protection of Bioresources in these areas. The Sacred Groves are considered as Hot spots of local biodiversity because of undisturbed conditions, suitable micro climate and restriction in the natural resource usage leading to enrichment of biodiversity. They are moderators of micro climate and protectors of soil and watershed.

These Sacred Groves are usually dedicated to local folk deities or tree spirits.These spaces are protected by local communities because of their religious beliefs and traditional rituals that run through several generations. District Reasi has a number of Sacred ecosystems as Sacred Caves and Sacred Hill dedicated to deities.

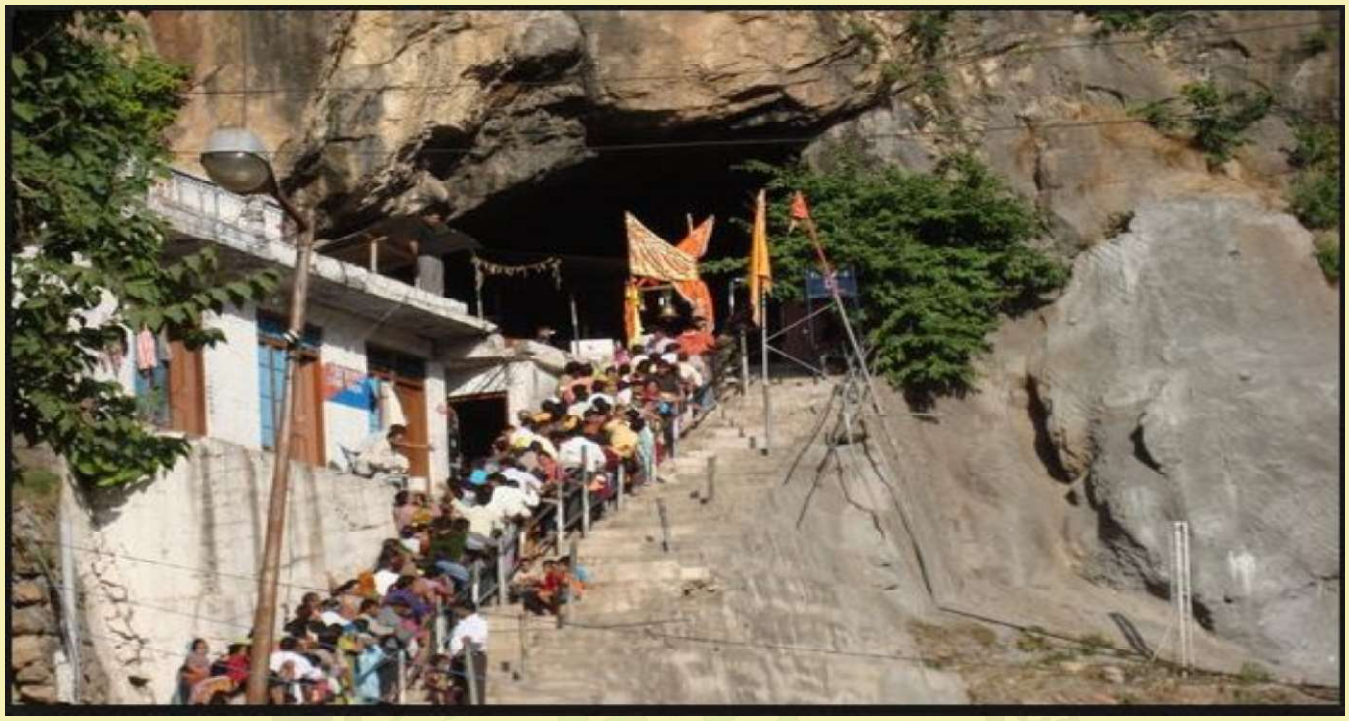
Sacred Caves in Reasi

A cavity inside earth may be either natural or artificial in origin. Natural caves come into existence by the action of water or tectonic displacement. Caves are considered sacred if they are associated with gods, godesses, deities or mythical figures. Sacred Caves play an important role in their own conservation as well as in conserving local biodiversity. District Reasi has following sacred caves:

Baba Dhansar cave: Located at Karua Jheel (Pond) near village Karua, 17 kms from Reasi towards Katra. It is a beautiful place and a must visit for people who visit Vaishno Devi. Here, a huge spring gushes out of the mountain side in a thick grove of trees and forms a number of small cascading water-falls before ultimately flowing into the Holy rivulet that merges with the Chenab River. Next to the spring in a small grove in the rock face is a naturally formed Shivling on which droplets of water fall at a constant pace all the year round.

Baba Dhansar Cave

Shiv Khori: Famous cave shrine of Shiv Khori situated in District Reasi of J&K depicts natural formation of Shivlingum. It is one of the most venerated cave shrines of Lord Shiva in the region.

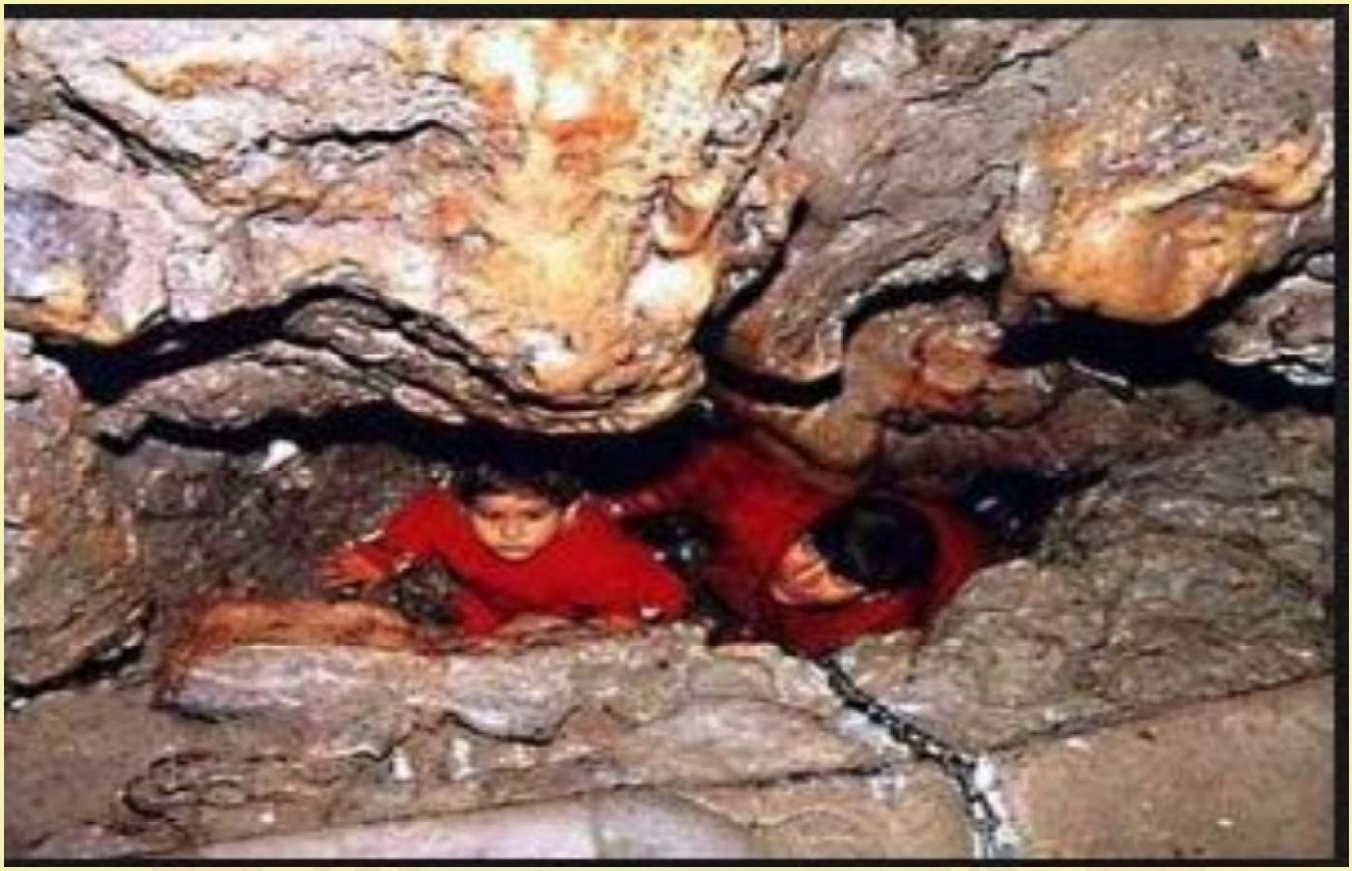


Shiv Khori Cave

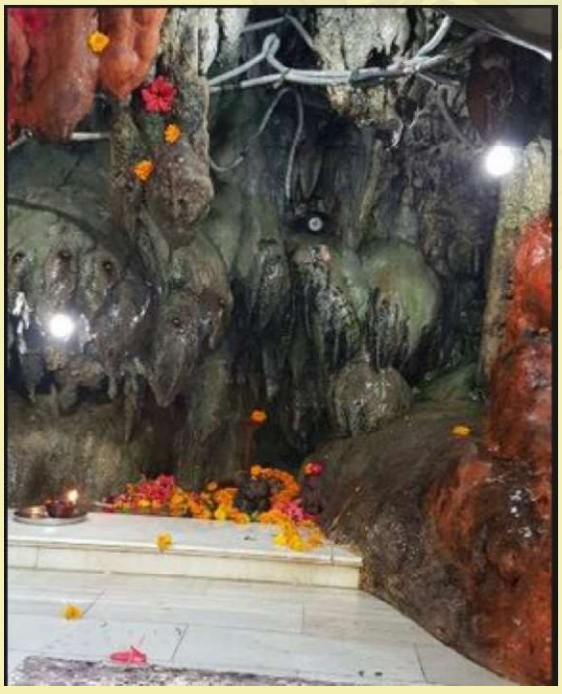
Mata Vaishno Devi Cave: The Goddess Mata Vaishno Devi's abode is in 100 feet long cave with a narrow opening. The holy cold and crystal clear water comes out of the cave.

Mata Vaishno Devi Cave

Adkuwari cave: Believed to have come from AdiKumari which means "The eternal Virgin". 500 mts from Indraprastha and located at an altitude of 4800 feet is Adkumari- half of way mark as it is situated at a distance of nearly 6 kms from Katra.



Adkuwari Cave



Nav Devi Cave Temple

In District Reasi these sacred caves have indeed far reaching significance for environmental and biodiversity conservation. These caves support natural habitat for creatures that require consistent temperature and dark living conditions. They also provide clean water sources as long as they are untouched by human initiated pollutant.

Nau Devi Cave Temple

Cave of Nau devi temple lies within a distance of 10 km from katra and on the way to Shivkhori . This holy place have nine pindies of mata inside a small cave.

Throughout the world people look up to mountains as a source of blessings such as water, fertility, life and healing and they conserve local ecology and the environment. Sacred mountains are exceptionally comprehensive ecosystems, they provide habitat to species and give them opportunities to move up and down and to adapt to climate change, helping the species in their survival.

Trikuta Hills, Katra

Sacred Mountains in Reasi

Trikuta Hills in Katra town of Distt.Reasi are designated as sacred and regarded as abode of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi. Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine is one of the oldest shrines of India, located at a height of 5300 feet on the holy Trikuta Hills of the Shivalik Hill Range. The Sacred Trikuta hills have played a vital role in the conservation of local ecology and the environment. The sacred hill protected has resulted in precious natural resources like water, timber, flora and fauna being maintained and preserved for future generations thus enhancing sustainability.Indigenous communities have realised that these mountains are valuable resources of nature which nurture, that makes them worth protecting at all costs. Beliefs and values of people who revere them act as powerful forces that preserve the integrity of these natural environments.

Threats to the Sacred Groves in Reasi

Threats to sacred groves vary from grove to grove. But some common threats to sacred groves are:

Road Construction has lead to the fragmentation of habitat, construction of railway tract is another factor responsible for restricting the free movement of animals especially that of mammals, continuous railing alongside the roads which lead to the Bhawan and continuous sheds which have added to the effect of habitat fragmentation, helicopters carry the pilgrims from Katra to Sanjichat and vice-versa are a great source of noise in the hills especially at Sanjichat, Katra and adjoining areas. There has been a continuous yearly increase in the number of pilgrims. This yearly increase in the number of pilgrims visiting Bhawan and other sites has been the main reasons for the developmental works destroying the habitat of animals. During summer season when the springs dry up, it leads to the migration of wildlife to the areas where there is abundance of the water.

It has been observed that the wild animals were killed because of the conflict such as crop and fruit raiding, flash Photography during the night also adds to the disturbances of the wild animals. Gathering of firewood, timber and non timber products, forest fires, grazing pressure due to increasing livestock, encroachment of forests etc. are resulting in shrinking of large groves. In nutshell, increasing human interference is responsible for disturbance and degradation of these sacred landscapes.

Unravelling the environmental significance of these sacred groves, its cultural integrity and biological diversity, it's high time for the conservationists as well as local communities along with Govt. and NGOs to take up strategies for conservation of these fragile landscapes for the betterment of humankind. "A balanced approach to ecological management is the need of the hour. The sacred grove concept, extending from a species to a landscape, can show the way". P S Ramakrishnan.

Forest Fires in Reasi: A Serious Environmental Hazard

Authors: Sanjay Singh and Kusum Devi Sem 6th
Mentor: Dr. Anshu Gupta
Asst. Prof. in EVS

The most common hazard in forests is forest fire. Forest fires are as old as the forests themselves. They pose a threat not only to the forest wealth but also to the entire regime, to fauna and flora, seriously disturbing the bio-diversity, the ecology and environment of a region. During summer, when there is no rain for months, the forests become littered with dry senescent leaves and twinges, which could burst into flames ignited by the slightest spark. The Himalayan forests have been burning regularly during the last few summers, with colossal loss of vegetation cover of that region. As per Indian state of forest report 2017, India saw a 46 percent increase in the number of forest fires in the last 16 years.

Jammu and Kashmir is the only state in India where forest fires are reported almost every season. Forest fires not only affect the flora and fauna of the region but

they also pollute the environment and lead to climate change by increasing green house gases. In the last one decade, forest fires have negatively impacted the Jammu and Kashmir region and have affected the ecosystem to such an extent that the drinking water crisis has aggravated in many parts of the Himalayan region. It has also affected regeneration, soil fertility, productive capacity of forests, non-timber forest products and other ecosystem services.

Forest Fires in Jammu & Kashmir

In 2016, there were 214 incidents of forest fire and the number jumped to 775 in 2017.

The state is abundant with the unique and diversified floral and faunal wealth. With 20,441 sq.kms of forest cover, J&K is one of the richest areas of bio-diversity in India. J&K ranks 12th in respect of area under forest cover in India. The forests of the state are economically very rich and have great benefits. Jammu and Kashmir State is a forest rich state. J&K State is

bestowed with different types of forests ranging from sub-tropical to moist temperate and alpines. Per capita forests and tree cover in the state is about 0.15 ha which is almost double the national average i.e. 0.07 ha. Around 40 per cent of the forest area in J& K state is either dense or very dense. 60% of the total forest area falls in Jammu region and rest falls in Kashmir region. Forests play a significant role for the sustenance of livelihood of rural and urban people. Forests are also important for power development, tourism, agriculture, horticulture etc. As per official data, 341 hectares of forest area was affected due to forest fire in 2016. In 2017, 2,579 hectares of forest area was ravaged in devastating fire incidents across the state. In 2015, 214 such incidents were witnessed across the state and the area affected was 341.4 hectares. In 2014 and 2013, 470 and 278 forest fire incidents were recorded in J&K, the official document revealed.

Forest Fires in Reasi

Reasi is located at a distance of 64 km from Jammu and is bound by Tehsil Gool Gulabgarh in the north. Climatically Reasi falls under sub tropical zone and temperate zone. According to forest survey about 67,498 hectare area is under forest which is about 44% of the total geographical area of the district. Most of the forest area have long pine trees and due to change in seasonal temperature forest fires is seen in the district. The reason of forest fires is Pine resin or Pitch Pine are cut to obtain resin and when temperature increases it catches fires and spread to a large area. Inflammable material such as dry grasses, shrubs, fallen leaves and fallen woods available in the forest. The more the inflammable material available in the forest, the more severe will be the forest fire. Topography is another factor for the forest fire in the hilly areas. Fire spreads very fast when it travels towards a hill slope but it spreads slowly when it travels towards downhill. It is estimated that from last 7 years the number of forest fire cases are 217 while the forest damage is about 2523 hectares.

Details of Forest Fire incidents/cases that happened in Reasi Forest Division (Reasi, Katra, Thakrakote) from 2011 to 2018

Out of the ranges, Reasi, Katra and Thakrakote ranges are the most vulnerable to fire incidents as the area is primarily sub tropical with chir as its principal crop. This is corroborated by the data on occurrence of fire incidents since the year 2011 to 2018. The abstract of which is as under:

Reasi: From 2011 to 2018, total number of fire incidents in Reasi is 75. Due to this maximum area affected is 574.5 hectares and maximum Forest damages (Headload) is 1072 hectares.

Katra: In Katra, from 2011 to 2018, total number of cases of fire incidents is 30 and area affected in 162.4 hecatre and Forest damage is 350 hectares (headload).

Thakrakote: In this area total cases of fire from 2011 to 2018 are 105 and most of the area affected is 426.2 and maximum forest damage is 101 (headload).

Total Forest damage in Reasi District

Overall in district Reasi total number of Forest fire incidents are 217, total area affected is 1163.11 hac and total forest damage in the district is 2523 (headload).

Table : Details of Fire incidents in last 7 years in Reasi Forest Division

Range	Year	No. of cases	Area affected in Ha	Forest damages (Head load)
Reasi	2011-12	3	2.00	15
	2012-13	18	130.50	250
	2013-14	12	146.00	260
	2014-15	15	67.00	175
	2015-16	2	7.20	33
	2016-17	12	79.00	154
	2017-18	13	142.81	185
Katra	2011-12	2	1.15	7
	2012-13	9	72.00	150
	2013-14	2	2.25	11
	2014-15	1	2.00	17
	2015-16	7	28.00	80
	2016-17	3	9.00	28
	2017-18	6	48.00	57
Thakrakote	2011-12	7	5.00	24
	2012-13	30	159.50	320
	2013-14	7	30.70	55
	2014-15	20	105.00	260
	2015-16	4	9.00	50
	2016-17	23	53.00	246
	2017-18	21	64.00	146

Source Reasi Forest Department

Reasi: An Agrarian Economy

Authors: Raheena Kousar, Puneet Kour and Shazia Kousar (B.Sc. Semester 4th)
Mentor: Lakhvinder Singh
Asst. Prof. in Botany

Agriculture holds an important position in the economy of an area by meeting the budding needs of the local populace. A sustained and pervasive agricultural growth is a pre-requisite for the development of any region. The primary occupation of the people of Reasi is agriculture and its related activities. District Reasi is gifted with huge bio and agro-climatic diversities. It comprises of two agricultural sub-divisions viz. Reasi and Arnas (Dharmari). Various ethnic communities viz. Hindu, Gujjars, Muslim Kashmiri & Sikhs are the residents of the district. However, the Gujjar and Bakerwals are the predominant tribal communities in this hilly district of J&K.

The major cereal crops of Reasi District are maize, wheat and rice. The other crops which have been making a noteworthy impact on the economy of the farmers are: Vegetables & Potato, Fodder, Pulses, Jowar, Bajra, Barley and Oilseeds (Sesamum in Kharif and Sarson in Rabi). The District is also rich in its flora and has a remarkable potential of Horticulture fruits i.e. Citrus, Apple, Mango, Guava, Apricot etc. Mushroom cultivation, vegetable cultivation, floriculture and sericulture have picked up in recent years due to the intensive effort of the State Agriculture Department, KVK and various other agencies. The floriculture of Kanjli and Bhagta villages, the organic farming of Talwara and Kundkandayarian villages, fruit production in Pouni and Sirah villages, vegetables of Grammoure and Mari, walnut of Mahore and Sungri, turmeric and ginger of Pouni and Chamyara are well recognized.

The natural vegetation consists of trees, grasses and bushes. The district is constituted of subtropical, intermediate and temperate zones. The annual rainfall in the district is 1000 to 1100 mm. Mean maximum and minimum temperature ranges between 35-40°C and 10-12°C respectively. Reasi district is spread over the three main agro climatic zones:

1. **The Lower Subtropical Zone:** The lower Hills of Katra, Panthal, Reasi, Pouni, Talwara fall in the subtropical belt. The major cereal crop production in this zone includes Bajra, Wheat and Maize. The region also produces spices like Turmeric and Ginger in Pouni and Chamyara. Vegetables included are Spinach, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Kohlrabi, Turnip, Beans, and Ladyfinger. Horticultural products are Almond, Aonla, Apricot, Ber, Citrus fruits, Grapes, Guava, Kiwi, Litchi, Mango, Olive, Peach, Peanut, Pear and Plum.
2. **Higher Intermediate Zone:** Higher intermediate zone comprises of Arnas, Kanthan, Thanpal, Judda, Dharmari etc. This zone comprises of crops like Wheat, Rice and Maize. The season of cultivation of Rice is same as in case of higher temperate zone. It is sown in the month of May and is harvested in the month of August, being a Kharif crop. Wheat is also cultivated in Arnas, Kanthan, Thanpal, Judda and Darmari areas. It is grown as a Rabbi crop. The vegetables grown in this zone include Radish, Tomatao and Okra. Fruits grown are Apple, Mango, Walnut and Banana. The spices include Onion, Garlic, Ginger and Turmeric.
3. **Higher Temperate Zone:** This zone comprises of Buddan, Mahore, Chassana, Lar, Deval etc. Each of these places is separately rich in different types of vegetations. The zone as a whole is famous for crops, vegetables and fruits. It is rich in the cultivation of crops like Maize, Rice and Wheat. Vegetables that are grown here are Potatoes, Brinjal, Cucumber,

Pumpkin, Capsicum, Peas, Chilies, Beans, Radish, Bitter gourd and Lady-finger. Major fruits include Apple, Orange, Quinces, Walnuts, Banana, Pear, Apricot, Peach, Strawberry, Grapes and Plum. A few pulses are also grown in this zone besides Spices like Onion, Ginger, Turmeric and Garlic.

Most part of the district is rain fed and out of the net cultivated area of Reasi District (25,480 hectares), the area irrigated from all sources is 2293 hectares that is nearly 9% of the net cultivated area. River Chenab flows through the District with its many small rivulets.

Among all the blocks of the district, Pouni is agriculturally more promising than the rest of the blocks. This block covers quite a good area under irrigation and the farmers of this block are very progressive. In Reasi block, because of the tourism, there is a tremendous scope for floriculture, mushroom and vegetables. Thus, there are plentiful possibilities for the farmers of this block for their economic upliftment. Mahore and Arnas blocks hold a very good prospective for horticultural crops especially temperate fruits like Apple, walnut, Peach, Plum and Apricot. Sheep husbandry too provides a good source of livelihood because of the number of meadows present in the high altitude of the area.

It is mentionable here that though the situation has no doubt improved in Reasi after it being designated as a District and with the efforts of the J&K Government, but still there are little opportunities for the overall economic development of the region. Despite being a self reliant agrarian economy, Reasi is still an under developed district. It is a well known fact that by blending indigenous wisdom of the local peasants with appropriate technology, farming in Reasi can be made profitable and sustainable and employment generating.

The traditional agriculture is still no longer able to provide adequate nutrition and generate employment opportunities to the men and women of the region. One significant issue to be addressed is the need to teach the present and future generations of Reasi about the successful farming techniques vis-a-vis providing them sound education, equal political and economic opportunities.¬

Scope of Biotechnology in Reasi: A Beginners' Guide

Author: Shazia, Raheena Kouser, Sem 4th
Mentor: Prof. Kaurab Singh
Asst. Prof. in Biotechnlogy

What is the Scope of Biotechnology in Reasi ?

The simple answer is.....a lot !!!
And the complex answer requires some basic understanding of Biotechnology as many people simply relate it with Science of crazy scientists, who are engaged in cloning of some weird creatures which then go out of their control and bring harm to Nature. Most Sci-fi movies constantly portray these fictional situations but at the cost of generating lot of misconceptions about Biotechnology. It's true that Biotechnologists routinely engage in activities like cloning and alteration of genetic make up but under controlled set up and it is just one domain of this large enterprise of scientific knowledge. We will learn more about cloning and genetic alteration later in the article which intends to enhance reader's understanding and remove misconceptions, if any. But first understand what is Biotechnology. There are multiple standard definitions of Biotechnology, but a simple google search will yield the definition-

'the use of living cells and bacteria in industrial and scientific processes'

And even before this very definition came into existence, humans have been using cells and bacteria at their home since ages. The curd we eat is an outcome of fermentation process facilitated by Lactobacillus bacteria. Same is the case with bread making process wherein Yeast, yet another microbe, is employed. On commercial scale microbes have been used for cheese and wine making process. When these simple processes are scaled up to an industrial level under controlled set up in terms of micro-organisms and equipment used, it's then called industrial microbiology which in turn comes under the domain of Biotechnology. The reason industrial microbiology is grouped with biotechnology is because often scientists need to alter the genetic makeup of microbes to enhance the production.

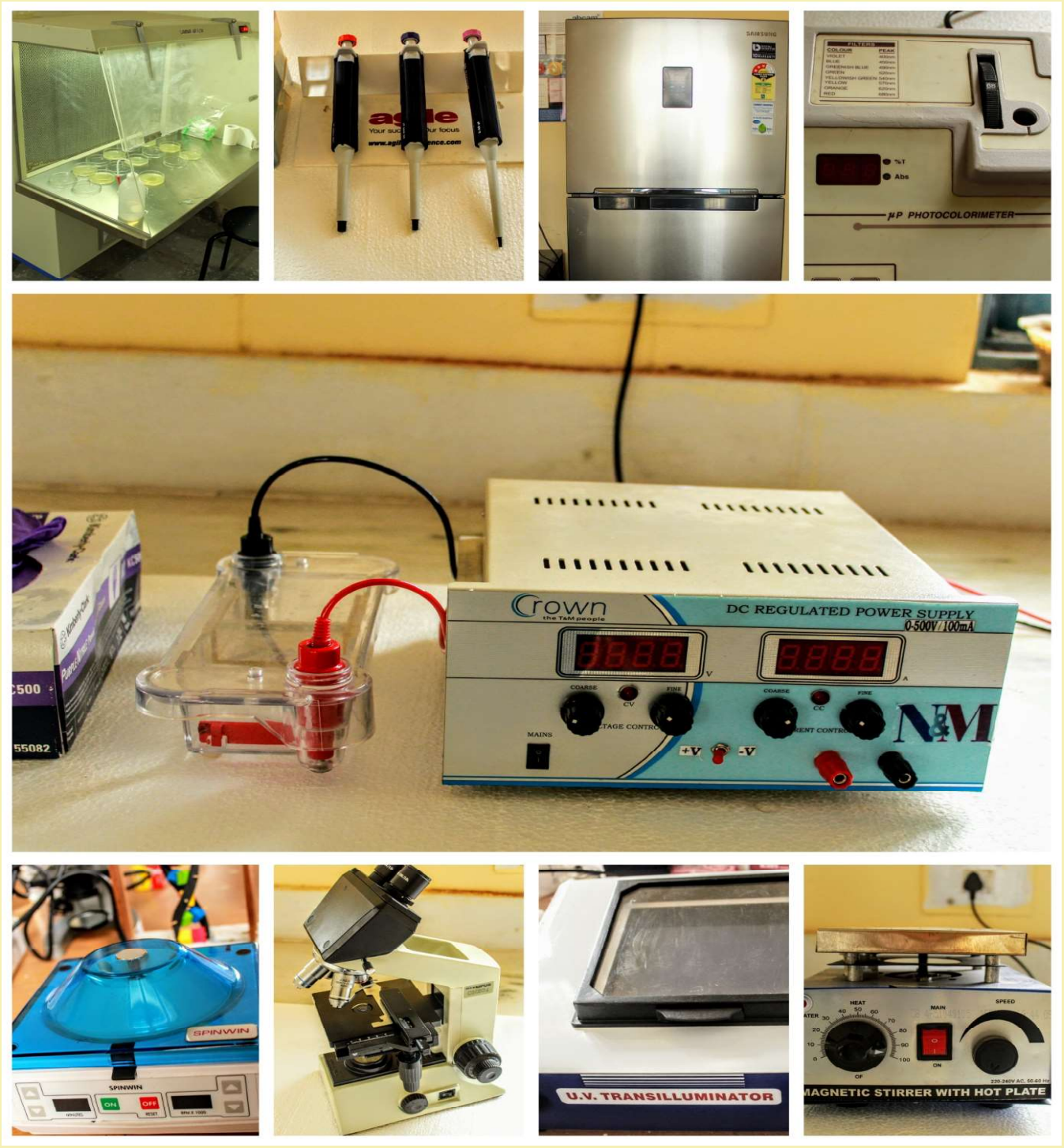
The genetic makeup defines the phenotype i.e the observable characteristics or traits of an organism like height, skin complexion etc. Genetic make up, in turn is determined by DNA which is the hereditary material of most of the organisms on planet Earth including humans. As hereditary material, DNA is the agent responsible for carrying the characteristic features of parents to their children. Biotechnology involves designing tools to manipulate the genetic makeup of organisms but in a regulated manner. Manipulating genetic make is a common practice ever since humans engaged themselves in agriculture and domestication process. Breeding techniques have been employed in anticipation of getting better crops, cattle, breeds of dogs and horses etc. People then had little control, if any, on the outcome of these breeding practices. Unlike, conventional breeding, Biotechnologists have better control when they engage in activities like joining two or more different known DNA molecules resulting in a recombinant DNA molecule. All these activities are

done in a controlled set up and under strict guidelines. Often these recombinant molecules are of great use in vaccine development (e.g. recombinant hepatitis B vaccine), for making healthcare products (e.g. Recombinant insulin), pest resistant crops (e.g. Bt Cotton), biofuel production etc. In short, Biotechnology affects our lives to a great extent and aims to make it better amidst challenges like food shortage, infectious and non infectious diseases.
This seems interesting, but obvious question is where does Reasi fall in this picture?

The answer is in the abundant natural resources of Reasi which can offer basic building blocks for research. Reasi, owing to its geographical uniqueness offers plethora of resources. The unexplored flora and fauna is the perfect opportunity for scientists to unravel Reasi's natural world mysteries. For example, what kind of bacteria would you find in the hot springs of the district and more importantly how will it be isolated , identified and made use of. Although, at first, this seems to be a 'not so interesting stuff ' but as a matter of fact all major antibiotics, commercial enzymes (biological catalysts which speeds up the rate of chemical reactions), therapeutic products like blood clot busters etc. are derived from naturally occurring microbes. If still this doesn't fascinates you, DNA fingerprinting is common term one might have heard and is commonly used technique in forensics and paternity testing procedure. The technique requires DNA as a starting material and at times it's not that abundant for e.g. availability of single strand of hair at a crime scene. By using another technique called Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) one can increase the copy no. of DNA, just like a photocopier makes identical copies of a document. Interestingly, this technique requires an enzyme which should be able to cope up with high temperature of the PCR process. Where can one find an enzyme which can withstand high temperatures ....most probably from an organism which can tolerate high temperatures, like the ones residing in natural geysers. As a matter of fact, the first of its kind Taq polymerase enzyme extensively used in PCR was discovered in the same fashion. Therefore, it always makes lot of sense to investigate what kind of organisms live in hostile conditions and what useful product one can get from them.Reasi, in that way has immense untapped potential.
In case, readers particularly young students from Reasi are fascinated by exciting opportunities in Biotechnology and simply wonder what should they do in the first place, then there are three options. Firstly, they can take up Biotechnology as a core subject at 10+2 level. But since it's not available in all major schools there is a second option available in their own district. We have Department of Biotechnology at Govt. General Zorawar Singh Memorial Degree College which offers Biotech as a subject for students of B.Sc (Medical). The department has now all major equipment to carry out basic Biotechnology experiments. All the major Biotechnology related books including that of International authors are available in the College library thus providing conducive learning environment for students. The department aims to raise the knowledge and technical expertise of Reasi students to National and International standards of Biotechnology labs. The third option available is M.Sc Biotechnology for which any Science graduate can apply. There are many ways to enter into a Master's program but one of the best option is CEEB (Combined Entrance Examination for Biotechnology) conducted by JNU every year. Additionally,

Biotech is offered as Btech and Mtech courses at various institutions in our country. In short, there is no dearth of opportunities, provided you have passion for research coupled with qualities like grit and perseverance in you.

The day is not far when Reasi will be in news for becoming next Biotech research hub and that's not just wishful thinking, it's the confidence in the unique natural resources of Reasi. As a humble beginning Department of Biotechnology of GDC Reasi is striving hard to realise this dream as soon as possible.



BIOTECHNOLOGY RESEARCH STARTER PACK AT GDC REASI

Salal Hydroelectric Power Project: Generating Energy and Illuminating Lives

Authors : Jyotika Meenia Sem 6th and Ismita Abrol Sem 6th
Mentor: Naveen Kumar, Asstt. Lect. in Physics

Salal Hydroelectric Project, one of the major power projects in the State of Jammu and Kashmir is a state of the art power project, which is fulfilling the power needs of a major part of The Northern India. The power project is a run-of-the-river power project on the Chenab river (also known as Chandra Bhagha river).The project is named after the village Salal.

The project was conceived in 1920.The feasibility studies on the project commenced in 1961 by the State Govt. of Jammu and Kashmir and construction work started in 1970 by the Central Hydroelectric Project Control Board under the Ministry of Irrigation and Power.

In 1978, construction of the project was entrusted to the National Hydroelectric Power corporation on agency basis. After completion of the project, it was handed over to NHPC on ownership basis for operation and maintenance. Stage-I of the project was commissioned in 1987. First unit of stage II of the project was commissioned in 1993, second in 1994 and third in 1995.

The construction of dam was opposed by Pakistan alleging the violation of Indus Water Treaty, as a result of which the original design of the dam was changed, thereby lowering the height of the dam, that was originally proposed and also closed the diversion canal permanently.

It is a rock-fill and concrete dam with a total height of 113m and 450m in length. According to the original design of dam, the total capacity of the reservoir was 284 million cubic metre but due to siltation and various other environmental and geological factors, the capacity of the reservoir is reduced to just 11.40 million cubic metre.

The power generated from Salal Hydroelectric Project is transmitted to almost entire Northern India, thus fulfilling the energy needs of people. The project is of great importance for the people of Jammu and Kashmir, be it on the employment front or various others welfare schemes initiated by the NHPC Ltd. The total output power capacity of the project is 690 MW and the project at present, in full operational mode, is generating a total of 690 MW of power supply.

The Power generated from the Salal Hydroelectric Project is first transmitted to Northern Grid from where it is distributed to various states in different proportions as follows:

1. Chandigarh : 0.27%
2. Delhi : 11.62%

3. Haryana: 15.02%
4. Himachal Pradesh 0.99%
5. Jammu and Kashmir 34.99%
6. Punjab 26.60%
7. Rajasthan 2.95%
8. Uttar Pradesh 6.95%
9. Uttarakhand 1.21% Out of this, 12% of the total power generated is provided to the state of Jammu and Kashmir, free of cost.

The NHPC Ltd., which is regulating the affairs of Salal Hydroelectric Power Project is Mini Ratna category-1 PSU and is working for the welfare of local populace on various fronts, as provided by the NHPC Ltd., Jyotipuram. The various welfare schemes initiated under "corporate social responsibility" are sustainable development in sectors like peripheral development, education, health, etc.

A number of initiatives like enhancement and renovation of J&K Govt. school buildings, renovation of roads, construction of bridges /foot bridges, organizing medical camps , skill development programmes , women empowerment, etc., are being taken from time to time. These initiatives of the NHPC Ltd. are based on 'need assessment survey' on one hand and initiatives supported by local civil administration on the other .

During the construction of the project, land of a total of 385 locals families was acquired .The land owners were given full compensation for their land. A large scale employment was provided to local adjoining populace through Reasi Employment Exchange. Apprentice training to the local youth through ITI with stipend is one among the various welfare schemes initiated by NHPC Ltd. Presently, the employment to youth is being provided through contractors.

On the environmental front adequate safeguards were complied with during the construction and since then, various plantation drives have been organized by NHPC Ltd. to take care of the environmental factors.

Contributed by:-

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(The article is written with inputs and photographs from Mr. Parvesh Thakur, Manager, Technical Wing).

Kauri Bridge in Reasi: An Engineering Marvel

Author: Sahaurti Sharma Sem 6th
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The Indian Railways is building the world's highest railway bridge on the river Chenab in Reasi district which will provide direct connectivity to the Kashmir valley.

The iconic bridge will soar 359 meters above the bed of the river Chenab and will be 30 meters higher than the Eiffel tower in Paris.

The bridge forms the crucial link in the111km strech between Katra and Banihal which is part of the Udhampur-Srinagar Baramulla section of the Kashmir Railway project.

The iconic bridge is being contructed on the river Chenab on the Katra - Banihal section as a part of the flagships Udhampur Srinagar Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) project.

The launch of the main arch is a note worthy endeavour as it entails carrying heavy segment from two ends of bridge, Kouri end and Bakkal end and involves the world's longest cable crane arrangement. The bridge will have stations at both the ends.

The 1.3km long bridge is being constructed at a cost of Rs. 1,230 crore. The work is being done by AFCONs through Konkan railways.

The officials said that more than 1,300 workers and 300 engineers have been working round the clock to complete the bridge.

The construction started in 2004, but the work was stopped in 2008-09 on the aspect of safety of rail passengers due to frequency high velocity winds in the area.

The interesting part about the bridge is the steel which is being used in its construction. The steel is blast proof and it is being prepared to withstand any kind of attack.

Nearly, 500 locals have been employed in this category through the project and is expected to boost townism and development in the valley.

The authorities had to face many challenges during its construction, for instance ensuring that bridge is constructed without hampering the flow of water. The bridge is likely to be completed by June 2019 as more than 70 percent work has been finished. It will prove a unique engineering marvel in the coming days.

An Overview Educational and Health Status of Reasi District

Author: Vaishali Thappa, Sem 6th and Sala-ud-din Malik Sem 4th
Mentor: Esar-ul-Ayub
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District Reasi is situated in the Shivalik hills and is located at 1,528 mt above mean sea level. Reasi district was carved out from erstwhile Udhampur district owing to re-organisation of districts in April, 2007. The district is presently constituted of nine tehsils. These tehsils have further been divided into twelve Community Development Blocks, while rural part of the district is constituted of 255 villages(including 2 un-inhabited villages). Its urban sector is comprised of 3 Municipal Committees viz, Katra,Reasi & Purana Daroorh and two Census towns, namely Talwara and Marhi. The district has recorded a population of 3,14,667 which is 2.51 per cent of the total population of the State. The area of the district is 1718.51 sq.km while the rural part of the district is spread over an area of 1679.5 sq. km and the urban sector of the district having an areas of 39.01 sq. km; thus population per sq.km. of the district i.e. density works out to 183. Among all the districts of the State, Reasi ranks 16th in terms of population.

Educational Scenario

Socio-economic status is intimately connected with the educational outcome. There is a strong correlation between education and economic development. Countries which achieved rapid stride and progress in shortest possible time are the ones whose expenditure on education has been quite high, glaring examples of which are east Asian tigers (South Korea, Thailand, Hong kong)
Reasi District in comparison to that of other districts in Jammu and Kashmir lacks in terms of proper educational and health infrastructure. Overall literacy rate of District is 58.5% which is below the nation average level which stood at 64.8%.
There are many factors on the basis of which one can understand the overall educational scenario namely teacher pupil ratio, total enrollment, literacy rate, educational infrastructure expenditure on education and so on. Some of these factors are discussed below;

1)Teacher Pupil Ratio

The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 in its Schedule lays down Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR) for both primary and upper primary schools. At primary level the PTR should be 1:30 and at the upper primary level it should be 1:35. The Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) framework stipulates that the PTR at secondary level should be 1:30
By looking at the teacher-pupil ratio in the concerned district, it has been found that there has been marked improvement in the teacher pupil ratio. According to Table 1 , PTR in the year 2008-09 was1:34 which has further improved to 1:13 in the year 2016-17 .If one would look into the teacher-pupil ratio at middle and high school level, it is surprisingly very good i.e. 1:16 for middle and 1:20 for high school level respectively. Better pupil-teacher ratio at the primary level may be due to very high level of recruitment of teachers under SSA, RMSA and liberal funding for the said schemes. However one could argue that in the census of 2011 literacy rate of the district Reasi was 58.5% which was quite low in comparison to that of national average.

Table: 1
TEACHER PUPIL RATIO (REASI District)

YEARS / LEVELS	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
PRIMARY	1:34	1:21	1:13	1:17	1:17	1:2	1:16	1:14	1:13
MIDDLE SCHHOLS	1:19	1:18	1:14	1:18	1:18	1:15	1:12	1:12	1:16
HIGH/HIGH SECONDARY	1:16	1:38	1:29	1:21	1:21	1:30	1:21	1:20	1:20

Source: Directorate of School Education, Jammu

2) Enrollment in Government Institution for General Education

As far as enrollment in government institution for general education is concerned for general education, there has been significant improvement in the government institutions, i,e, overall enrollment has increased from 65936 in 2014-15 to 75935 in 2016-17(TABLE 2). The distribution of enrollment based on various levels of education (i.e. primary, middle and high/higher level) shows marked increment in enrollment in the college level enrollment. That is, in the year 2009-2010, total enrollment was 523 students which has increased to 935 in the year 2016-17. This improvement can be attributed to the opening of two new colleges in the district concerned. However if one would compare it with the national level, these numbers are abysmally low.

With respect to the enrollment at the primary level is concerned, the overall enrollment in the year 2016-17 stands at 21000 which is marginally lower than the preceding two years i,e 25518 and 22000 in the year 2014-15 and 2015-16 respectively. This decline in the enrollment can be attributed to the marginal increase in the enrollment in private institution at the primary level. At the middle school, the enrollment has increased from 15000 to 30000 from year 2008-09 to 2016-17. This improvement could be linked with the successful implementation of mid-day meal scheme, which primarily focuses on the improvement in the nutritional requirement of children from the age group of 6-14 years old.

Table - 2
Enrollment in Government Institution in General Education

YEARS COLLEGE	TOTAL ENROLLMENT IN			
	COLLEGE	HIGH/HIGH SECOND	MIDDLE SCHOOL	PRIMARY
2008-09	NA	10000	15000	44000
2009-10	553	16448	25091	23495
2010-11	NA	15772	24070	25559
2011-12	421	14633	25906	23784
2012-13	591	17320	26639	19075
2013-14	710	21043	23703	18412
2014-15	857	18894	20667	25518
2015-16	924	22800	25300	22000
2016-17	935	24000	30000	21000

Source: Directorate of School Education, Jammu

3) Expenditure in Education

The expenditure for education in Reasi district has been quite liberal as clearly shown in the Table-3 below. Out of total expenditure of 8490 lakhs in 2016-17; outlay toward education has been more than 10% which is quite good. This shows that education lies in the priority of policy makers and there is every likelihood that with increased spending under various heads in education in the district concerned, educational scenario is going to see huge improvement

Table - 3

Outlay and expenditure in education under the district plan year (2016-17) (Rs in lacs)

Levels .	Revenue outlay /availability of funds	Funds released	Expenditure
Elementary education	145.95	145	131.5 5
SSA	1626.49	227.99	170.93
Secondary education	62.28	32.83	32.33
RMSA	1521.68	357.57	43.62
Mid Day Meal	640.97	489.66	473.83

Health scenario

Improvement in health increases the productive capacity and leads to qualitative improvement in human capital. In order to have healthy society and productive labour force, focus must be on increased expenditure on public health. In India total expenditure on health is just 1.3% of total GDP. For better human resource capital formation, health constitutes an important place in achieving this objective. Therefore, much needed attention has to be towards this crucial sector

There are many factors which affects health of a household. If household have improved drinking water source, the possibility of water contaminated diseases are very grim. Moreover, proper sanitation, access for clean fuel for cooking etc. are very important factors for good health. According to NFHS-4 2015-16, report in Reasi district,16.5% households are using clean fuel for cooking and 44.4% households have proper sanitary facilities.

In order to understand the health scenario of the Reasi district following observation has been made based on the secondary data from various sources.

1) **Sex ratio of the population :** According to NFHS-4 2015-16, females per 1,000 males are 952 which is quite good and more than the national average of 934 females per 1,000 males. Whereas sex ratio at birth for children born in the last five years is 907 females per 1000 males.

2) **Maternal and child health :** Maternal and child care plays very important role in shaping the future labor force. Both antenatal and post natal care is extremely important and has bearing for the lifelong growth and development of a child. According to WHO, women must have at least four antenatal care visits to the hospital. According to NFHS-4,2016-17 in Reasi district, mothers who had at least four antenatal care visits are 57.7%, however post natal checkups received by mothers from a doctor/nurse/LHV/ANM/midwife/other health personnel within two days of delivery is just 47.7% (NFHS-4 2016-17).

3) **Delivery care :** It is another very important factor which affects the health of both mother and new born. It has been government's endeavour that maximum numbers of deliveries are institutionalised. But by looking at the total number of institutional births in concerned district, it has been found that 62.5% of births are institutional births (NFHS-4 2016-17) which can be attributed either to the remoteness of the district or prevalence of not so good public and private health care facilities.

4) **Child immunization :** Child immunization is very potent weapon to fight against serious illness. Without any doubt India has achieved huge amount of success in immunizing the children at a very large scale. In the state of Jammu and Kashmir, children aged between 12-23 months who received most of the vaccination in public health facility is 97.5% (NFHS-4, 2015-16). In the district Reasi, it is 98.6% which is quite impressive irrespective of its hilly terrain and topography.

5) **Nutritional status of children :** For wellbeing and good health we need nutritious diet. According to NFHS -4 2015-16, 25.4% children under 5 years of age are stunted in the district concerned, where as 22.7% children under 5 years are under weight. Children under 5 years who are wasted (weight-for-height) are 17.4%, (wastage is usually the result of acute significant food shortage and /or disease). All these are the indicators of severe nutritional deficiency in the district concern. These results could be related with the poor socio economic condition. , like low literacy rate among women, low per-capita income etc.

6) **Nutritional status of Adults :** Nutritional assessment is used to determine whether a person or group of people is well nourished or malnourished (over-nourished or under-nourished). In Reasi district women in the age group of 15-49 years, whose body mass index(BMI) is below normal (BMI< 18.5kg/m2) are 13.7% and men (15-49 years) with below normal BMI (BMI<25.0kg?m2)are 15.1 %. These numbers somehow reflects that nutritional deficiency remains one of the prime concerns and its persistence among adults impacts their efficiency, productivity and obviously their earning potential.

CONCLUSION: For any economy to sustain its higher trajectory of growth, it needs a sustained, serious effort to boost its education and health sectors. The efficiency and productivity is directly proportional to the efforts being put in to these areas. It has been found from the above discussion that Reasi district has been showing good signs of improvement in educational aspect but lags miserably in various health indicators. Therefore, to ameliorate the socio-economic profile of the district requires removing various infrastructural bottlenecks, which are hampering the progress of these two very important sectors.

A Study of Government Approach towards Rural Development

Authors : Devinder Kumar, Ajeet Kumar, Sem-6th and Deepak Kumar, Sem-4th
Mentors: Dr. Jagmeet Kaur, Asst. Prof. in Commerce
Mohd Ashraf, Asst. Prof. in Commerce

The concept of rural development is gaining worldwide attention. It is due to the fact that even in the era of modern science and technology, significant amount of people living in rural areas are still deprived of varied facilities such as adequate nutrition, education, proper communication, social justice and so on. According to 2011 census, about one-third of rural population in India survives on a sum of Rs. 5000 despite of the fact that the cost of living is rising fast.

Rural development is a comprehensive and dynamic approach that focuses on developing and upgrading the rural areas. The rural development has been defined from different perspectives namely-concept, phenomenon and strategy.

From concept perspective, rural development deals with enhancing the quality of life and economic well being of rural people.

As a phenomenon, rural development concentrates on interaction between institutional factors. While other school of thought believes that rural development is a strategy that is designed to bring positive change in the life of rural people by enabling them to achieve more of what they need and want.

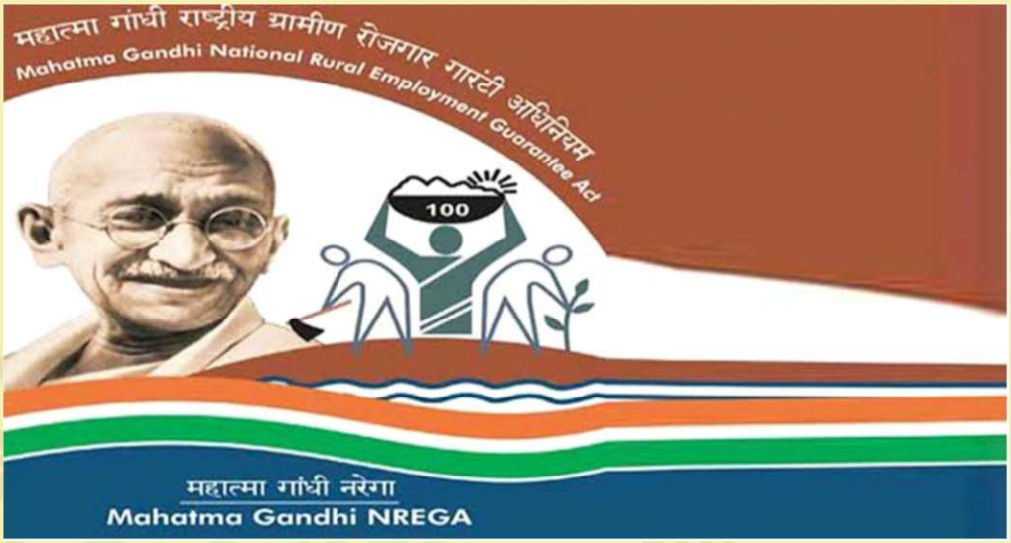
The Government of India (GOI) after realising that any economic development strategies do not work well if the area of 'Rural Development' is not paid required attention. Therefore, to achieve the objective of developing rural areas, GOI established Community Projects Administration under the Planning Commission on 31st March, 1952. Thereafter, in 1974, the Department of Rural Development came into existence which was given the status of a new Ministry of Rural Reconstruction on 1979. It was again renamed as Ministry of Rural Development in the year 1982.

In order to uplift and provide significant benefits to rural people, the Ministry of Rural Development and the Government of India in coordination with Department of Rural Development and Department of Land Resources have launched variety of programmes. Some important schemes for Rural Development launched by Government of India are given in the Table 1:

Table 1: Important schemes for Rural Development

S. No	Schemes	Year of Implementation	Primary Purpose
1	National Social Assistance Programme	1995	To provide financial help to widows, elderly, people with disability in form of pensions
2	Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana	2000	To enhance rural road connectivity
3	Sarv Siksha Abhiyan	2000	To provide an opportunity to all children between 6 and 14 years of age to get free education
4	Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY)	2000	To provide food grains at subsidised rates.
5	Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY)	2001	To give employment to the poor
6	Provision of Urban Amenities In Rural Areas (PURA)	2004	To provide urban infrastructure and services to rural areas to create opportunities outside the cities
7	Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana which is redesigned as National Rural Livelihood Mission. Also known as Ajeevika	2011	To empower women self-help model across the country
8	Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY)	2014	Each Member of Parliament will take the responsibility of three villages and look after the personal, human, social, environmental and economic development of the villages
9	Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana	2014	To cater to the career aspirations of the rural youth and adding diversity to the income of rural families

Along with the above mentioned schemes, a scheme known as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) was introduced under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) by GOI. MGNREGA which was enacted on 2005 aims to enhance livelihood security in rural areas by providing at least 100 days of wage employment in a financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. The employment under MGNREGA is a legal entitlement.


महात्मा गांधी राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण रोजगार गारंटी अधिनियम
Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act
100
महात्मा गांधी नरेगा
Mahatma Gandhi NREGA

MGNREGA was also launched in Jammu & Kashmir in 2005 which was being carried out through REGS (Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme) in the State. In the first phase, three districts namely-Poonch, Doda and Kupwara were brought within the ambit of the scheme. Accordingly, in the second phase, this scheme was extended to two more districts, that is, Jammu and Anantnag. Further, in 2007, the other districts of the state were brought under the purview of the Act.

Like other districts, MGNREGA was also introduced in Reasi District of Jammu and Kashmir with a view to improve the purchasing power of its people, primarily those of semi or unskilled workers who live below the poverty line. This study aims to identify the present status (2018-19) of MGNREGA in Reasi Block of Reasi District. As we can see in table 2, under MGNREGA, a total of 11 households of different panchayats were provided employment.

Table: 2 Household Completed 100 days in Financial Year 2018-19

S.No	Panchayat	House Hold Employed	Person days Generated
1	Aghar Ballian	0	0
2	Bhaber Brhamana	0	0
3	Bhaga	0	0
4	Dera Baba Bandha	10	1010
5	Gran Brotrian	0	0
6	Kotli Manotrian-A	1	100
7	Kotli Manotrian-B	0	0
8	Kyala - Suketar	0	0
9	Marhi-A	0	0
10	Marhi-B	0	0
11	Panassa	0	0
12	Seella	0	0
13	Sirla	0	0
	Total	11	1110

Source: www. mnregaweb2.nic.in

Although number of persons who register themselves in the beginning with MGNREGA is more than those employed in 2018-19 (table 3). That is out of 11693 persons who registered since beginning of the scheme, 1301 was employed in 2018-19 as per the latest updates. During last financial year 2017-18, out of total registered that is, 11693, 3479 persons were given employment.

Table 3: Age-wise Persons Registered and Employed in Financial Year 2018-19

Panchayats	Age-wise Registered and Employed Persons									
	18-30		31-40		41-50		51-60		Greater than 60	
	Registered	Employed	Registered	Employed	Registered	Employed	Registered	Employed	Registered	Employed
Aghar Ballian	47	2	238	16	180	23	92	9	156	7
Bhaber Brhamana	98	13	396	56	280	39	176	35	206	29
Bhaga	57	11	238	31	159	33	119	24	124	13
Dera Baba Bandha	158	34	408	125	254	85	209	69	217	52
Gran Brotrian	134	13	411	42	263	46	192	31	193	13
Kotli Manotrian-A	55	3	356	15	249	23	205	21	325	15
Kotli Manotrian-B	51	5	225	22	226	19	127	5	183	3
Kyala - Suketar	72	2	303	8	183	5	136	7	96	3
Marhi-A	53	4	169	25	136	17	103	17	72	7
Marhi-B	33	4	126	9	115	8	63	2	71	4
Panassa	112	7	385	44	270	35	231	29	243	14
Seella	104	3	338	16	215	11	133	2	153	7
Sirla	71	1	238	7	188	4	116	8	158	9
Total	1045	102	3831	416	2718	348	1902	259	2197	176

Source: www. mnregaweb2.nic.in

Cruel Face of Drug Addiction: A Profile Of Reasi District

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Nighat Bukhari
Lect. in Psychology

Drug addiction is basically a brain's disease that changes the functioning of brain. There is an uncontrollable desire to consume drugs, as a result of which addicted people engage in

compulsive behaviour to take drugs. The addicts find it impossible to control the intake of drugs, as a result of which they fail to fulfil day-to-day responsibilities in efficient manner.

For many, drug use starts with mere experimentation. For some, the use of drugs stem from curiosity about what it's like to be high whereas others start it under peer pressure. While some stumbles upon drugs as an escape from the uncomfortable feelings of sadness or anxiety that they experience. As per the report of “The Anxiety and Depression Association of America” about 20 percent of drug abusers have an anxiety disorder or a mood disorder, such as depression. Further the report advocates that one who is struggling with mental illness often becomes vulnerable to drug abuse.

Brain is wired to make to repeat experiences that make a person feel good. So every human being is motivated to produce those experiences again and again.Similarly, the addictive drugs target brain's reward system and hence they flood the brain with a chemical called dopamine. This triggers a feeling of intense pleasure and one feels compelled to take the drug to chase that high. Over the time, brain gets used to the extra dopamine. This ultimately makes a personto take more of the drug to get the same good feeling. Further, when these drugs are used for a long time, these can cause changes in other brain chemical systems and circuits as well. They can hurt judgment, decision making, memory and ability to learn.

Hence, to determine the abuse of drugs, this article aims to analyse the cruel face of drug addiction among youth of Reasi district.

Reasi is a district, located 64 km from Jammu. Majority of the population ekes out its livelihood from small business ventures, government jobs and agriculture. As of 2011 India census, Reasi had population of 36,355. Males constitute 54% of the population and females 46%. It has an average literacy rate of 75% (Male literacy=78% & female literacy=70%), which is higher than the national average of 59.5%.

Reasi is loaded with natural beauty. The company of river Chenab adds to its economy and beauty as well. Though it is away from the hassles of big cities but social problems particularly, drug

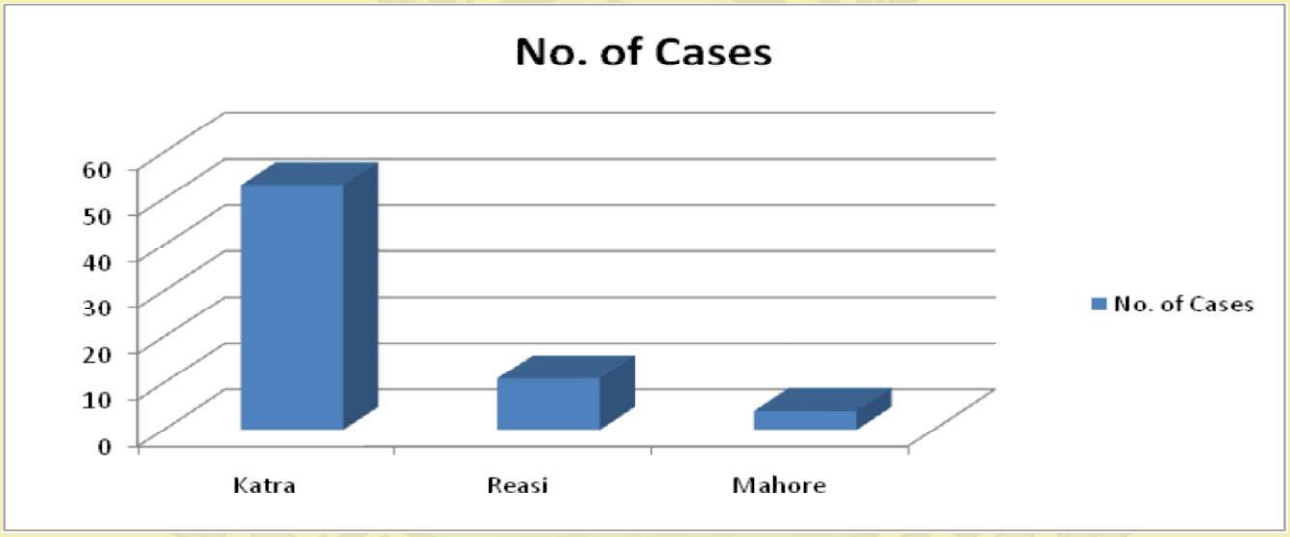
addiction is raising its cruel head in this district.

Katra, which is located in Reasi district, is one of the major tourist destinations of India. On the flip side, it is also becoming targeted area for drug peddlers and abusers as well.According to police record of 2017-18, fifty three cases of drug abuse are reported from Katra followed by 11 from Reasi and 04 from Mahore (Table - 1)

Table - 1: No. of cases of drug abuse under different areas of Reasi district

Area under Abuse	No. of Cases
Katra	53
Reasi	11
Mahore	04

Figure - 1: No. of cases of drug abuse under different areas of Reasi district



As shown in Figure - 1, the number of drug abusers in Katra town is comparatively more (i.e. 53) than Reasi which is 11 and Mahore that is, 4.

Different kinds of drugs are being consumed namely- charas, poppy straw, heroin, Ganja, intoxicated injections/capsules in Reasi district. As per the report of district Police, huge quantity of these banned drugs is being seized from time to time. One of the most disturbing factors is the age group of drug abusers. According to Police record all drug abusers are between the age range of 15-35 (Table - 2) which is very dangerous for any society as drug abuse is directly linked to crime, HIV AIDS, theft and many other social problems.

Table - 2: Types of Abusers considering age group

Year	Age Group	No. of Cases
2017	15-20	02
	20-25	11
	25-30	12
	30-35	10
	35 & above	09

2018	15-20	03
	20-25	12
	25-30	12
	30-35	09
	35 & above	09

Figure - 2: Chart showing types of Abusers considering age group

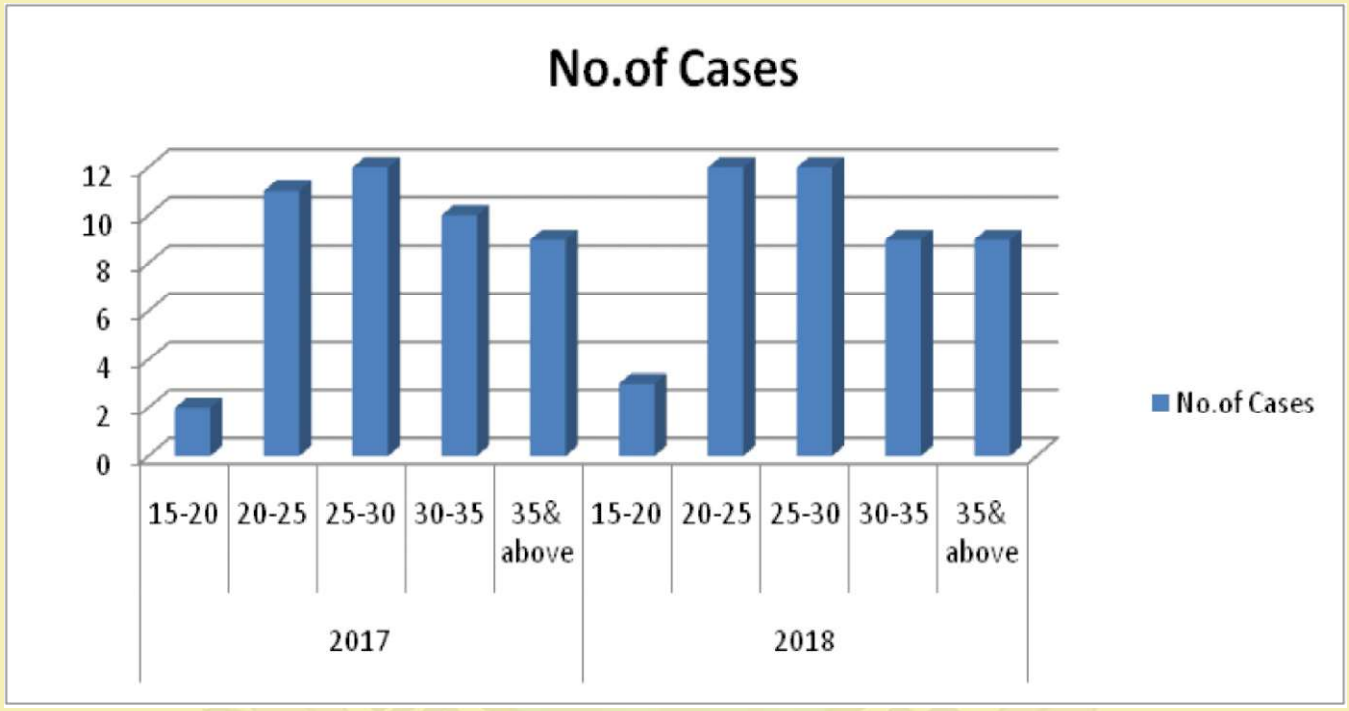
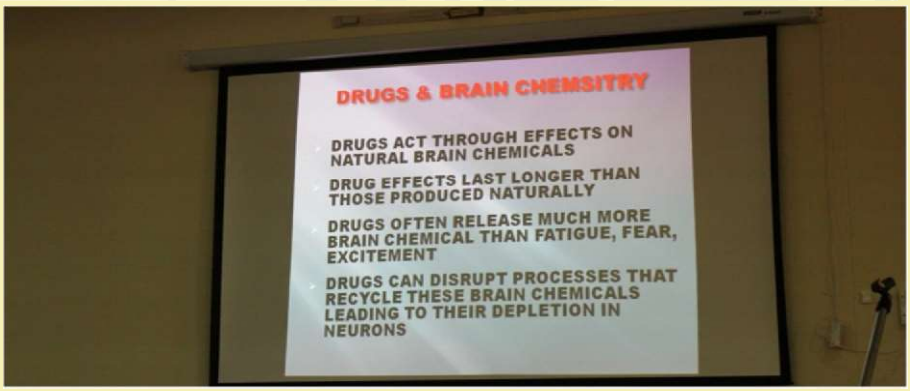


Figure - 2 depicts that the most susceptible youth are of the age group of 20-30.
There are several factors that can enhance or mitigate adolescent risk for initiating or continuing to abuse. As far as Reasi district is concerned the factors such as exposure to drugs, socio-economic status, quality of parenting, peer group influence and biological/inherent predisposition might be the reasons due to which the youth is diverting towards drug addiction. Adverse childhood events included abuse (physical, emotional or sexual), neglect (physical or emotional); growing up with household substance abuse, criminality of household members, mental illness among household members, and parental discord and illicit drug use are some other contributing factors for motivating these youth for drug abuse.

For instance, district police of Reasi conducts varied awareness generation programmes from time to time. Recently aforesaid programme was organised in various institutions of the district namely- Government General Zorawar Singh Memorial Degree College, Government Boys Hr. Sec. School, Government Girls Hr. Sec. School and KV Jyotipuram. In 2016, Excise Udhampur-Reasi Range organised painting Competition under the theme “Drug Addiction is an Invitation to Death and Destruction” to create an awareness among youth against drug abuse and addiction. Recently, a seminar on “Drug Abuse and its Preventions” was conducted by Indian Army in collaboration with Mehar Foundation Panchkula- Gurmat Sagar Trust Anantpur Saheb at Government General Zorawar Singh Memorial Degree College, Reasi in October 2018.

An awareness programme organised by District Police Reasi in Govt General Zorawar Singh Memorial Degree College, Reasi

Further, it is suggested that along with above mentioned awareness programmes, an effective rehabilitation centre should be established in the district to bring the drug addicts in the main stream.


DRUGS & BRAIN CHEMSITRY
DRUGS ACT THROUGH EFFECTS ON NATURAL BRAIN CHEMICALS
DRUG EFFECTS LAST LONGER THAN THOSE PRODUCED NATURALLY
DRUGS OFTEN RELEASE MUCH MORE BRAIN CHEMICAL THAN FATIGUE, FEAR, EXCITEMENT
DRUGS CAN DISRUPT PROCESSES THAT RECYCLE THESE BRAIN CHEMICALS LEADING TO THEIR DEPLETION IN NEURONS

Menstrual Hygiene: a Taboo; let's talk about it

Authors: Kusum Devi, Vishali Devi and Swati Bizal, Sem VI
Mentor: Dr. Anshu Gupta
Asst. Prof. in EVS & Nodal Officer (SBSI)
(Awareness campaign under Swachh Bharat Summer Internship Program GDC Reasi)

"Stop sacrificing a girl's self-esteem at the altar of menstrual hygiene"

Menstruation is a normal biological process and a key sign of reproductive health, yet in many cultures it is treated as something negative, shameful or dirty. The continued silence around menstruation combined with limited access to information at home and in schools results in millions of women and girls having very little knowledge about what is happening to their bodies when they menstruate and how to deal with it.

Facing long-standing social stigmas attached to menstruating bodies, many become isolated from family, friends and their communities. Often, they miss school and productive work days and fall behind their male counterparts.

Stigma around menstruation and menstrual hygiene is a violation of several human rights, most importantly of the right to human dignity, but also the right to non-discrimination, equality, bodily integrity, health, privacy and the right to freedom from inhumane and degrading treatment from abuse and violence

Yet the importance of menstrual hygiene management (MHM) is mostly neglected. Menstrual hygiene is a taboo subject; a topic that many women are uncomfortable discussing in public. This is compounded by gender inequality, which excludes women and girls from decision-making processes. Menstrual hygiene is fundamental to the dignity and well-being of women and girls and an important part of the basic hygiene, sanitation and reproductive health services to which every woman and girl has a right."Women who lack access to menstrual hygiene are at 70% risk of reproductive infection"

The above mentioned factors were the motivation behind this awareness campaign being carried out under SBSI, GDC Reasi.

Awareness campaign on Menstrual Health and Hygiene by female Interns of GDC Reasi
An awareness session was conducted by female Swachh Bharat Summer Interns of GDC Reasi, under the supervision of Nodal Officer Dr. Anshu Gupta, Asst. Prof. in EVS.
Two campaigns were carried :
i. At community level for the females of Gran Brotrian Area
ii. At Govt. Middle School Bidda, Zone Chanka for female students of the school.

An awareness session was conducted by Female Swacch Bharat Summer Interns of GDC Reasi, under the supervision of Nodal Officer Dr Anshu Gupta. In this awareness, topics related to menstruation, hygiene and cleanliness and associated health affects were discussed with the females of the area. Poor protection and inadequate washing facilities may increase susceptibility to infection, with the odour of menstrual blood putting girls at risk of being stigmatised.

Menstrual Hygiene and cleanliness awareness camp at Gran Brotrian by Female Interns

Menstrual Hygiene and cleanliness camp at Govt. Middle School, Bidda

Actually, there is a relation between menstrual hygiene and school drop-out of girls. Maintaining personal hygiene during period and importance of maintaining hygiene, avoiding the traditional methods of using dirty cloths and promoting use of sanitary napkins and proper disposal of sanitary napkins etc. were discussed.

Although the choice of sanitary protection is very much a personal decision based on cultural acceptability. It is often influenced by a woman's or girl's environment and access to funds, water supply and affordable options but maintaining hygiene is very important, even if cloth is used it must be hygienically washed and dried in the sunlight. All these issues were discussed and females, girls were made aware of their personal hygiene besides the cleanliness of their surroundings. Sanitary napkins were also distributed as a part of this awareness campaign.

For hygiene and cleanliness camp interns downloaded relevant videos, slogans and made placards. Interns along with nodal officer Dr. Anshu Gupta tried to communicate everything to the audiences in simplest possible way. Videos were shown and explained, personal hygiene examination of children was done by the Interns, their nails, teeth and hands were checked and they were motivated to keep their personal hygiene and cleanliness.

"Enable girls to stay in school by ensuring access to hygiene products, adequate toilets and water and disposal options" was stressed upon.

Personal Experience

Menstrual hygiene is integral to realising universal rights to water and sanitation. This activity was very important as it gave us the idea how rural women are unaware about the most important part of their health and hygiene and due to lack of knowledge they put their health at risk because of above discussed wrong practices.

If a girl is educated then the whole family is educated. An educated girl makes two families educated. Girls and boys are the two pillars of the nation, when one pillar is weak, how will nation become strong. A girl has to play the role of daughter, sister, wife and a mother. So many roles can be played well if the girls are healthy and educated. As a summer intern its really a memorable experience for us to spread awareness on such an important issue that too in the rural area.

Menstrual hygiene Day is an annual awareness day on May 28 to highlight the importance of good menstrual hygiene management. It was initiated by the German based NGO WASH united in 2014 and aims to benefit women and girls world-wide.

Conclusion

Menstrual hygiene, a very important risk factor for reproductive track infection, is a vital aspect of health education for adolescent girls. Educational television programmes, trained school nurses, motivated school teachers and knowledgeable parents can play a very important role in transmitting the vital message of correct menstrual hygiene to adolescent girls of today.

You tube video link of this campaign: **https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mxr8z7lX3rA**
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wP9fZsqaExg
Youtube channel of Internship Programme:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQHFGQ86zLxvN7LSZs2UyDw
(Article is written with the inputs of Female Interns of Swachh Bharat Summer Internship Programme)

A Report on Swachh Bharat Summer Internship

Authors : Sanjay Singh Sem 6th
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Sangeet Kumar Sem 4th
Vishal Sharma Sem 6th
SwathiBizalSem 6th
Kusum Devi sem 6th
Vishali Devi Sem 6th
Mentor: Dr. Anshu Gupta
Asst. Prof. in EVS

"Sanitation is more important than Independence" Gandhi ji

Swachh Bharat Misiion (SBM) was launched on 2nd october 2014 by Prime Minister Narendera Modi to fulfil the vision of a Clean India by Oct. 2, 2019 as a tribute to Mahatma Gandhi on his 150th birth anniversary. The SBM is a concerted approach and is one of the biggest ever drives to accelerate the efforts towards achieving universal sanitation coverage, improving cleanliness and elimination of open defecation in the country. Apart from making the country open defecation free, the other objectives of the mission include eliminating manual scavenging, ensuring proper management of solid and liquid waste, and facilitating participation of Private sector towards provision of cleanliness facilities.

Gandhi Ji said "Everyone must be his own scavenger"
So a massive programme of estimated cost of 2,23,692crore was launched by Govt.

Swachh Bharat Summer Internship (SBSI)
SBSI is one of the most important parts of Swachh Bharat Mission. In this programme students were engaged to create awareness among people regarding the issue of solid waste management, personal hygiene and open defecation under summer internship was started by GGZSMDC Reasi under the leadership of Principal Prof. (Dr.) S. P Sarswat. This Internship was headed by Nodal Officer, Dr Anshu Gupta, Asstt. Prof.in the department of EVS. Seven Interns were selected to make the Internship successful.
Swachh Bharat Summer Internship Team, GDC Reasi
Nodal Officer : Dr Anshu Gupta
Interns:

- Vishali Devi
- Swathi Bizal
- Surinder Singh
- Vishal Sharma
- Kusam Devi

- Sangeet Kumar
- Sanjay Singh

"Environmental cleanliness begins with each individual desired to be clean" with this message the whole team of interns headed by nodal officer, made effective efforts to spread awareness among the people.

Selected site for Internship

Village Gran More (Gran Brotrian) located at a distance of 3km from main Reasi was selected as one of the sites for Internship.

Need for selecting Gran More for Internship

Someone has rightly said "you will never solve poverty without solving water and sanitation".
The people of Gran More were migrated from their villages during early times due to terrorism. Majority of people are poor and illiterate. They were unaware about cleanliness and defecation openly, foul smell comes out of the shrubs when someone passes through the path, open dumping of waste without proper segregation were the common issues there. The site was suitable for each criteria of Internship.

Process of internship

The Internship was started in the last week of May and ended on July 31, 2018. Initially a detailed survey of the site selected was done to find out the problems there and plan our Internship accordingly, it was done in various visits and door to door interactions with the people. For spreading awareness among the people related to proper waste management and other hygiene practices a number of activities were planned by Nodal Officer Dr. Anshu Gupta. All the team members were guided and trained by Nodal officer from the very first day. She trained us the ways to interact with people in the selected area related to different problems, how to tackle and react under different conditions. She always stressed upon unity for team work. Our Nodal officer always stressed upon that not only cleanliness of surroundings but Swacchta of an individual and his body is also as much important as is the cleanliness of home, streets, drains, back alleys and

everywhere. Accordingly a large number of activities: Nukkad Natak/ Street Plays, waste segregation drives, door to door waste collection drives with different colours of dustbins, compost pits construction, best out of waste activity for children of the area, health and hygiene camp, wall paintings related to the messages of swachhta, rallies at school as well as community level, door to door waste collection drives and menstrual health camp. A number of movie screenings were organised for children as well as general public to spread the messages of ill effects of open defecation, open dumping and not following personal hygiene practices. All these activities played a vital role in spreading awareness, People participation was one of the biggest achievements for us as it made the drive more interactive and fruitful.

"If we plan for one year plant rice, if we plan for 10 yars plant trees but if we plan for 100 years we should educate people"

The objective of all the activities mentioned above was to create awareness among all the people of the selected area. Best out of waste programme was organised to encourage and teach the way of making things by using waste items. ***"Nothing is waste ---everything is a resource for something else"*** Our Nodal officer always told us that waste is nothing but a misplaced resource that needs to be placed properly. With this thing in mind she trained us to carry out ***"Best out of waste Activity".*** It is believed that children are the future of the country, if the children are aware and strong then the nation will ultimately be strong. We had also

drawn wall paintings and wrote slogans organised Nukkad Natak rallies at school and public places, door to door waste collection drives and menstruation camp. All the activities played a vital role in awaring the children and other local people starting of SBSI was a great move to promote swachhta.

Challenges

SBSI recognises that to achieve ODF status rigrous approach towards spear heading behavioural change is required within span of Internship period. The challenge was to inculcate a sense of cleanliness among the people, to avoid littering of waste people should have a sense of responsibility to keep the surrounding clean. The main daunting task was to bring the behavioural change through awareness but still we got success in doing that. But behavioural change doesn't solve the whole problem as people need waste collection facilities. Even if they segregate the waste from their homes, it needs to be carried away to a designated dumping place. There was no waste collection facility, we contacted the concerned authorities but unfortunately we got a little help from responsible govt employees. We did our best in training people about waste segregation, recycling and composting but we got a little

success because till now there is no waste collection facilities, no proper waste dumping site and no sanitary landfill. The heaps of waste can be seen on road side and in the drains and during heavy rainfall drains overflows.

Comments on SBSI

It is not sufficient to provide only funds to handle the waste collection and to maintain toilets. There should be a monitoring body that keeps an eye on all Govt funds whether there is proper use of money or not.

Our team worked hard to bring change in the areas selected, even if this change seems small, still makes a huge difference. Our team did a great job in spreading awareness everywhere and for this the whole credit goes to our Nodal officer Dr. Anshu Gupta, who lead us from front to make this internship successful. We tried our best efforts. For the first time when our team visited these selected areas, we found that people were unaware about the impacts of open defecation, open dumping of solid waste, waste burning and many other issues. But now, they are aware and most of them are following the guidelines. People have started collecting waste after segregation. A few have started constructing toilets, they have stopped open burning of waste, plastic, they are following composting for biodegradable waste. We hope that they will follow these practices in future also. This is really a great achievement for our team and its a motivation for all of us to do more and more such work.

We strongly believe that team work is the real strength and if we work hard we can surely bring change. We have brought a change that is just a tip of the ice berg but that has definitely marked a difference in several lives. If we will get help from district administration

then we can bring a big change.
“One Team.....One Dream.....Making Our India Clean”
Our team is very lucky that we got this opportunity to do something for our country and it started from our own home town. The whole credit goes to our nodal officer Dr Anshu Gupta, she selected for this cause and worked hard and guided us to make this Internship successful. If again in future we will get such opportunity, we will accept it whole heartedly and shall do it honestly.
“Swacch Bharat ka Naara hai, yehi Sankalp Hamara hai”

A Field Vistit to Talwara Migrant Camp

Authors: Inderjeet Singh, Jameela Akhter, Vaishali Devi
Mentors : Prof. VinayLata
Asst. Prof. in Psychology
Nighat Bukhari
Lect. in Psychology

Forced migration is when people are made to leave their home or homeland. It is usually caused by violence, persecution, danger or because an authority has told them to do that and it come with lots of difficulties in adjustment and many psychological problems. The students of the Psychology Department as a part of their research outlook visited the Talwara Migrant Camp to understand the problems of the people residing there. The Camp includes the Migrants from Rajouri, Mahore, Reasi District and their outskirts. The people migrated during the late Nineties when the militancy was at its peak. It was a forced migration, many houses were burnt and people were threatened. Since then, these people have settled there with the initiatives of the District Administration at that time. According to them, the honourable Supreme Court registered only 642 families but with the passage of time, their families have multiplied and now there are 2200 families but they are not given the needful benefit that they deserve. Many complained about their pathetic condition, poor education and no employment.

During the visit, the team also came across many residents who were disabled, few with congenital defects like microcephaly, psychological disorders etc.There were few who were physically as well as mentally crippled. Many of them don't consider themselves to be the part of the system for they live in darkness with no representation in Municipalities and Panchayat. Some of them do not have a ration card or a voter ID for their identity. Their homes are almost destroyed and one can observe many cracks on the walls. There is a problem of water supply and power curtailment in the region as mentioned by the

migrants.Despite regularly highlighting their problems,no ear is lend to them and they consider themselves to be the victims of their fate.

In Nov. 2017, Centre's special representative for Kashmir Mr. Dineshwar Sharma visited Talwara Migrant camp and according to residents this was the first time that an interlocutor visited the camp in last two decades. Though, these camp residents are not much hopeful, yet they demand their rehabilitation and resettlement to be paid heed to. They ask for the renewal of migrant registration list considering their extended families and with making their Migrant status equivalent to Kashmiri Migrants so that they might come out of this darkness prevailing there from years together and get the required benefits.

Such visits give students an opportunity to reach the ignored

sections of the society and give a reminder of our responsibility for the community. Rationale of the visit was to sensitize the students to understand challenges and problems of the people who were forced to flee their homes and not getting the rights even after two decades of displacement.

Sports Scenario in Reasi: Challenges and Opportunities

Author: Deepika Thakur
Mentor: Ajay Kumar
Asst. Prof. in Political Science

Reasi is a small town located on the bank of River Chenab and is about 72 km away from Jammu, predominantly a hilly and backward area but popular for various tourist destinations and shrines as it attracts counts of tourists across the globe. The holy shrine of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi is the most sacred place to attract a large number of Pilgrims every year.

But when we talk about sports and sports Culture, Reasi stands nowhere as it is neglected region in this field. Young generation is not very much aware about the value of sports in the modern sedentary lifestyles and involve themselves in some other activities which are dangerous for their physical as well as metal health and for the health of the society at large. Print media had reflected that the local youth is attracting towards the use of drugs. Here, Games and Sports can play a very important role as they relax people from tension, frustration and stress and channelize their negative energy in positive way but there is no “Sports Culture” in Reasi as there are no active Sports Clubs and Associations to involve the youth in sporting activities by having regular coaching classes and activities. The reason behind is negligence by government and local administration.

As Reasi district is world famous but still neglected one in terms of games and sports. It is neglected in terms of Sports Infrastructure, it is neglected in terms of sports experts and coaches and it's also neglected in terms of funding for the promotion of games and sports. This negligence restricts the children and people to have active lifestyles which have multiple negative effects on the health as well as on the health of the local society.

Now, let's have a brief introduction about the organisations which are involved in the promotion and development of sports. Here, the role of two organisations came into front i.e. J&K State Sports Council and the Department of Youth Services and Sports.

But the condition of both the organisations are very much deplorable. The Department of Youth Services & Sports managed to produce National Level Players in some events. But, their all activities revolve around departmental activity calendar. They organise tournaments and short term camps as per the activity calendar and they have nothing to do with the regular coaching classes because they are bound by the rules of the department. They don't have any specialised coaching center and other required infrastructure. There is a huge shortage of Physical Education Teachers in the District. The Department does not have even a single playground of its own. So, it can be said that they are doing their jobs as per the system set by the department but their system has lots of drawbacks that needs to be modified as soon as possible.

Another organization to promote sports activities is J&K State Sports Council, the footprints of which are not visible and functional with only a bit of infrastructure without any maintenance. There is a Playground in the center of the town Reasi popularly known as General Zorawar Sports Stadium with a recently constructed Pavilion is also in deplorable condition.

It is interesting that the same ground which is also under danger from the anti-social elements that use to play gambling, learning driving etc. The work on Multi-purpose Sports Hall is going on but what about coaches and employees who will look after this infrastructure and impart regular coaching to the players.

Despite very poor infrastructure, equipment and coaches some other organisations and people are doing excellent job in the field of sports like in Fencing district Reasi has representations at the State, National and International Levels every year. Same is the case with wrestling. Shrine Board Shri Mata Vaishnoo Devi Katra is also playing very important role as they created world class Sports Complex in Katra and also started coaching centers in Volleyball, Basketball, Archery, Shooting etc. But, what the author observed is the lack of organised sports activities only. Yes, the local youth like to play cricket and they also have talent in this particular sport. Same is the case with volleyball, wrestling, athletics etc. The only need is organised and channelised event creations for all these sports.

It is high time where administration and government needs to look upon the development of sports infrastructure and arrange proper coaching centers to involve the youth in various sports activities to develop sports culture in the district and save the youth from other dangerous activities to make India a healthy and Young country. Let's have a look what government and administration can do in this field:

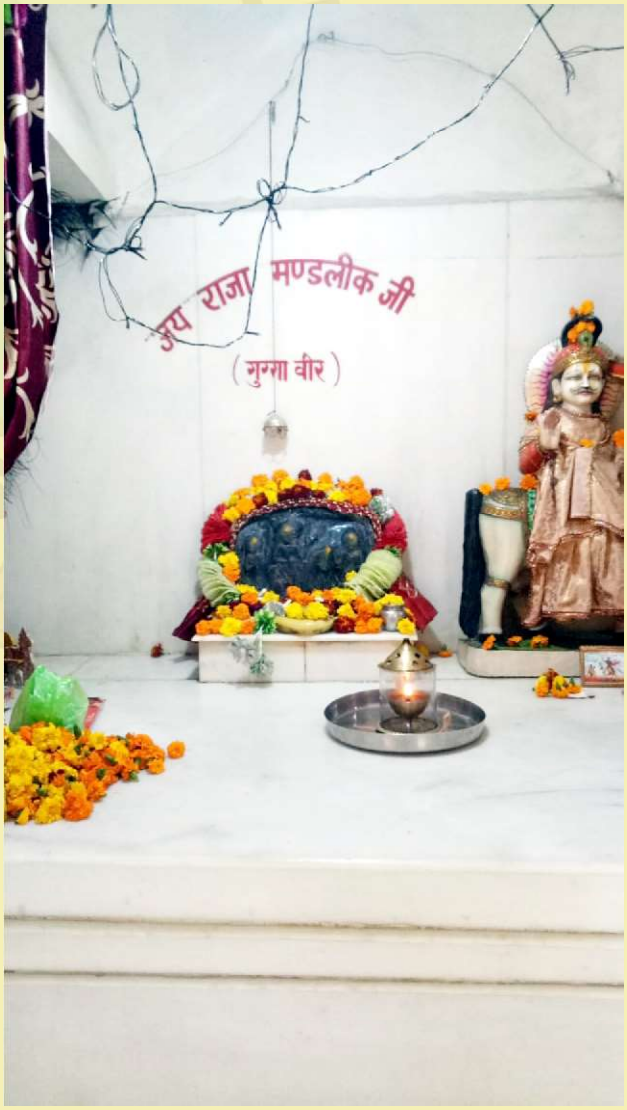
1. To direct all the heads of the educational institutions to create awareness about games and sports among the students and to encourage the students to participate in sports activities.
2. To construct at least one big size ground in the surrounding area where facilities for both Indoor and Outdoor organised sports can be created.
3. To extend full support to the coaches who are voluntarily extending their valuable services for the promotion of sports.
4. To promote the sports disciplines which are already doing good in their respective events.
5. To arrange sponsors for the conduct of special coaching camps and competitions.
6. To start coaching centers in the games where least infrastructure in needed like Wrestling, Kabaddi, Kho-Kho etc. at least at the Tehsil and Block level.
7. To depute outstanding sports persons in such centers by relaxing them from other duties e.g. there are various Physical Education Teachers having exposure of National and International levels. They need to be deputed in such centers by relaxing them from their regular duties.
8. To make District, Tehsil and Block Level Committees to look after the affairs of sports and the problems faced by the players.
9. To release regular funds for the promotion and development of sports.
10. To take immediate steps to maintain the existing playground situated at the heart of the town.
11. To register different sports clubs which are working on non-profitable basis.

Bawa Jitto: A Crusader

Author : Reshav Banathia Sem 2nd
Mentor Dr. Chander Mohan
Asst. Prof in English

One of the few dignitaries who rose to the stature from a common man to the most revereddeity of Duggar, Bawa Jitto is commemorated every year to mark the victory of good over the evil, near Jammu and at the village Aghar Jitto.

He is one among those who identified themselves with the land they were born on. Turning the leaves of history, one finds that he lived about 5oo years ago in the feudal society. At that time the relationship between the Jaagirdars(Landlords) and the peasants/tiller was that of master and a slave,the exploiter and the exploited.



The exact time of birth of Bawa Jitto is still a riddle. Some say it was in the year 1430 some write it in 1470.

Jitto was born in a poor Brahmin family of “Ghaar” and now famous by the name of the legendry hero, as Ghaar Bawa Jitto. Jojalan was the name of his mother.Rupa, his father migrated from Kashmir

and settled here.Jitto, like his father Rupa was a staunch follower of Goddess Vaishno.The family also enjoyed the benedictions of “King Mandlik”, a popular deity of Duggar and established a place of worship for King Mandlik. With the blessings of King Mandlik, he would cure the victims of “Black magic.”

The life of Bawa was full of ups and downs. Married to Maya, who could not survive child birth, Jitto himself had to raise his daughter,Gauri, nick named “Kauri”. But most of his time was spent in the worship of King Mandlik and Goddess Vaishno. His devotion to the “Devta” was perceived like his renouncing of the world. His kins started grabbing his land.

One incident that led to his complete breakdown was the attack of Black Magic on his daughter Gauri by his aunt “Jogan”.Gauri became ill and could not be cured with the medicines. Jitto took her to the sacred place of King Mandlik. Under the spell of the Deity, he found the image of his aunt “Jogan”. Jogan hatched several plans to defend her and started conspiring against Jitto and her sons also tried to kill him.

Disillusioned with the rivalries, Jitto left the village. Both father and daughter decided to settle in Pinjoor, where his old friend Rullo lived. Rullo took him to Mehta Bir Singh; the Zamindar of that area .Jitto requested for a piece of land for survival and was given a barren forest area by Mehta on the condition that he would give one fourth of the yield to Mehta.

During his short stay Jitto befriended Iso Megh and made him his partner. Both worked very hard and their hard work yielded miraculously. As the ill luck would have it, seeing the quality and quantity of the crop, Mehta asked his men to fill up all the sacks. Jitto pleaded several times and reminded him of the deed between them. Mehta paid no heed to his repeated plea. Being helpless before the tyrant and callous Mehta, Jitto stood on the heap of grains and thrust his dagger in his chest. He spread his blood on the crop before death. He prayed almighty to avenge on the wrong doers.

Poor Gauri was inconsolable after the death of her father. She decided to give up her life at the pyre of her father. Gauri was perhaps the first instance of young girl of eight, committing “Sati”. Since then she is worshipped as “incarnation of Goddess”.The sacrifice of Jitto is unique as it was performed in larger interest. His sacrifice was in the interest of the community.

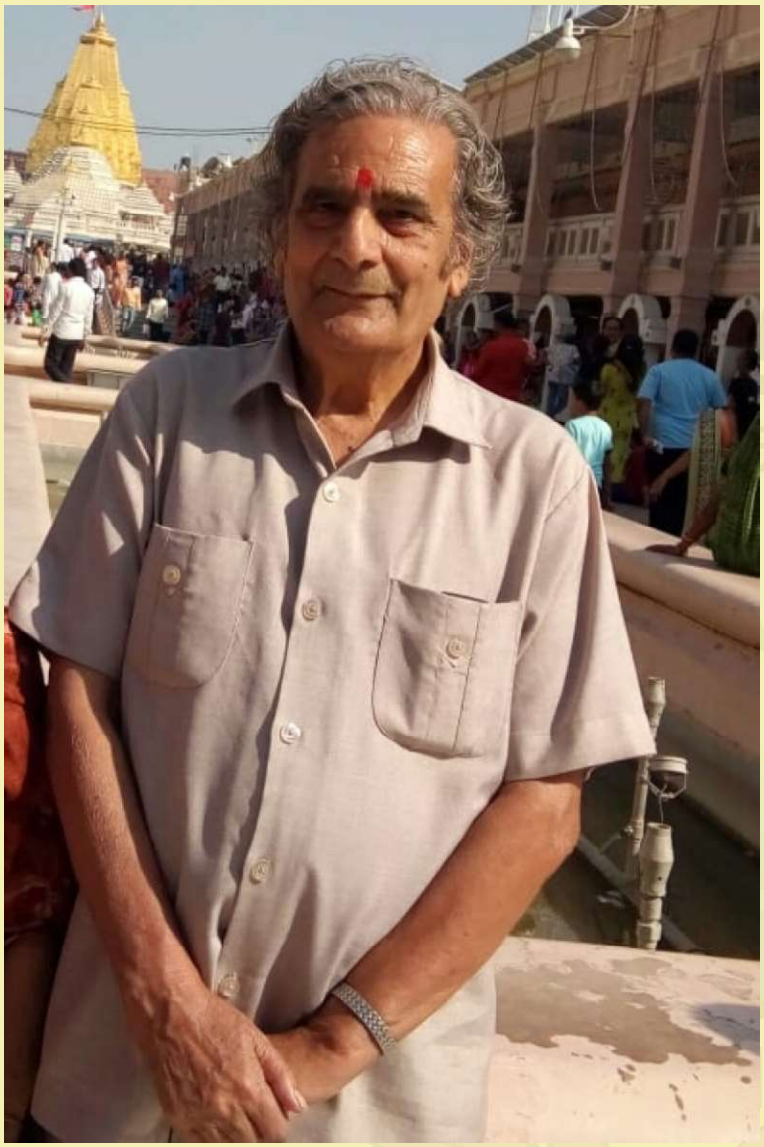
The sacrificial blood of Jitto, like that of Jesus Christ, who was crucified, leaves a different connotation for different people. His action cannot be explained in terms of behavioural psychology or cultural anthropology.

Prof. Shiv Nirmohi : A Living Literary Legend of Reasi

Authors : Dr. Chander Mohan,
Sr. Asst. Prof in English

Suman Bala,
Asst. Prof in English,

Altaf Ahmed,
Teaching Asst. in English



Professor Shiv Nirmohi was born on 19-04-1937 in Panthal (Katra Vaishno Devi) in District Reasi to Late Sh. Sawanmal Upadhyay and Smt. Aiso Devi. He completed his Matriculation from Punjab University in 1954 and Parbhakar in 1956.

Appointed as a Primary School Teacher in 1956, he enriched his qualification during service. He did his M.A (Hindi), B.Ed. besides Sahitya Rattan. He joined the Higher Education Department of Jammu and Kashmir in 1976 and retired in 1995. As a teacher he served for more than forty years in different capacities i.e. as Primary, Middle, High School, College and University Teacher. He has the honour of serving in rural areas for more than twenty years. His serve won him the most prestigious award of the state i.e. “State Award' for the Best Teacher of the State.

Post Retirement he served in Shivalik College of Education as Principal and left the college after serving from 1997 to 2002. He worked in various National and culturally rich institutions like Member of Advisory Board in Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Arts, Culture and Languages, Sahitya Academy New Delhi, Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) as subject expert and in many other organisations.

During his service he participated in National Seminars, workshops, and conferences related to his subject in various Reputed Universities of the Country like Punjab University Chandigarh,

Punjab University Patiala, Bharti Darshan University Tiruchi, and Banaras Hindu University, Jammu University, Rajasthan Sanskrit University etc.

Professor Shiv Nirmohi has been extensively quoted and referred by the scholars and academicians who know what primary research is. He has been working silently but steadily to document the traditions, rituals, culture and heritage of Jammu region. His medium is Hindi and vernacular Dogri.

He explored and implored Jammu Region. People of India knew the heritage and culture of Duggar through his work. His native place has been enriched as the number of visitors visiting Jammu increased after reading his findings. Tourists visited the religious, historical and Culture centres of Jammu Province.

His main dictum is “DHAROHAR SANRAKSHAN AUR PARYAVARN” that he propagated through his lectures.

Being widely travelled man, he organised more than hundred seminars for the documentation of culture and heritage of Jammu region. He initiated a movement in Jammu province for the preservation of natural as well as historical heritage through his books.

He came into prominence by his creative skills. His pen is actually 'mightier than the sword'.He wrote more than three dozen books on various aspects. His book 'Alochna Sidhant' was taught in B.A.Part-I and Jammu University has declared his book “Duggar Ka Itihas” as reference book for the Post Graduate classes.

As a research scholar, he visited many parts of India and almost every nook and corner of Jammu Province. He wrote on a wide range of topics that include folklore, culture, rituals, historiography, heritage, philosophy, art, architecture, tourism, linguistics, geography and anthropology.

Prof Nirmohi's three books have been awarded for the 'Best Book Award” by the J&K Academy of Arts, Culture and Languages and two books have been awarded by Central Hindu Directorate, New Delhi. He has the honour of been honoured by more than fifteen organisations of the country.

As a writer, he has been awarded by Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, leader of the opposition Smt. Sonia Gandhi various Governors of Jammu and Kashmir State.
May he live long and keep inspiring the generations to come.

कालका माता मंदिर रियासी : एक प्राचीन धरोहर

लेखिका : कंचन देवी
कलासः– बी•ए
निर्देशिका : नीना भानू प्रताप सिंह,
सहायक व्याख्याता

संस्कृति की सुन्दरता ने कई लोकप्रिय धार्मिक स्थानों के साथ रियासी जिला को उपहार दिया है। यहां कई ऐतिहासिक स्थान हैं जो इस जिले को सुरूप, आश्रचर्यजनक राज्य तथा देश की कुछ अपनी प्रतिश्ठित संरचनाओं के लिए प्रसिद्धि देते है। ऐसे ही भक्तों में विश्वास और ऐतिहासिकता को प्रकट करने वाला है रियासी जिले में स्थित प्राचीन कालका माता मंदिर। मां काली का यह मंदिर बस स्टैन्ड रियासी के निकट पहाड़ी के शीर्श पर स्थित है और इन्हीं के नाम पर ही इस क्षेत्र का नामकरण हुआ है। स्थानीय लोग इस क्षेत्र को 'कालका नगर' कहकर पुकारते हैं। माता कालका मंदिर के सामने सरकारी गर्ल्स हायर सेकेण्डरी स्कूल, रियासी स्थित है। ''काली नाम का अर्थ है मां दुर्गा या माता पार्वती जो भगवान शिव की पत्नी हैं।

काली मां को जीवन के दाता और विनाशक के रूप में चित्रित किया जाता हैं। मां कालका दुनिया की मां और करूणा का खजाना हैं जिस से सभी जीवन जागृत होतें है। कालका माता मंदिर रियासी के सबसे प्राचीन और सर्वाधिक और सम्मानित मंदिरों में प्रथम प्रसिद्ध मंदिर माना जाता हैं। कालका माता मंदिर में एक चटट्ान के रूप में विराजमान हैं। यह मंदिर पवित्र मंदिर माना जाता है जहां मॉ कालका अपने भक्तों की इच्छाओं की पूर्ति और आशीर्वाद देती हैं।

लोकप्रिय धारणा यह भी है कि देवी काली मॉ अविवाहित युवतियों को विवाह करने हेतु, दुश्मनों से भक्त की रक्षा, व्यवसायों को विकसित, रोजगार पाने हेतु तथा आम तौर पर सभीं भक्तों को सुख समृद्धि प्रदान करती है। कुछ

साल पहले इस मंदिर तक पहुचने के लिए 200 मीटर की दूरी पार करनी पड़ती थी परन्तु निजी परिवहन के द्वारा अब मार्ग सुलभ है तथा नयी बस्ती चौक से वाहनों द्वारा भक्तजन मंदिर के मुख्य प्रवेश द्वार पर पहुचते हैं पवित्र भवन तक जाने के लिए भक्तजन 163 सीढ़िया चढ़कर कालका माता मंदिर में प्रवेश करते हैं।

सामान्य धारणा है कि भक्त साल भर कालका माता मंदिर में दर्शन के लिए आते रहते हैं। परन्तु उनकी प्रार्थना ओर उत्सव का समापन हिन्दु वर्ष में दो बार नवरात्रि त्यौहार के दौरान संपूर्ण होता है।

लोक धारणा है कि कालका माता मंदिर लगभग 150 साल पहले बनाया गया था। पंडित भास्कर नंद जी के पूर्वज उत्तराखंण्ड से रियासी आये थे। उस समय ब्रिट्रिश शासन ने पूरे भारत वर्ष पर शासन कर लिया था पंडित जगतराम ब्रिट्रिश सेना में सुबेदार थे और उत्तराखंण्ड के पौरी गढ़वाल जिले केलाद गांव के रहने वाले थे। सुबेदार पंडित जगतराम ब्रिट्रिश अधिकारियों को हाथों गोला बारूद और खजाना पहुचाने क्वेटा जा रहे थें परन्तु मार्ग में उनको क्वॉली लुटेरों ने लूट लिया। (क्वेटा जो कि अब पाकिस्तान में स्थित है) सुबेदार पंडित जगतराम अपनी जान बचाकर भागे और जम्मू पहुच गयें उस समय महाराजा रणवीर सिंह जी जम्मू प्रान्त पर राज करते थे पंडित जगतराम महाराज रणवीर सिंह के पास पधारे तथा उन्हें अंग्रेजों से अपने जीवन की रक्षा हेतु आग्रह किया कि वे खजाना हथियार और गोला बारूद क्वेटा पहुँचाने जा रहे थे किन्तु डकैतों ने सर्वस्व लूट लिया तत्पश्चात जम्मू के महाराजा जी ने उन पर दया की तथा उन्हें रघुनाथ मंदिर जम्मू में आवास प्रदान किया। एक रात सोते समय मां कालका को पंडित जी ने सपने में देखा जिसमें माता कालका ने पंडित जी को रियासी पधारने और वहां अपने मंदिर की देखभाल करने का आदेश दिया। जगतराम जी ने अपना सपना महाराजा रणवीर सिंह जी के समक्ष प्रस्तुत किया, कि माता कालका सपने में आयी और मुझे शीघ्र रियासी लौट आने की आज्ञा दी है। पंडित जी के शब्दों को सुनने के उपरान्त महाराजा गुलाब सिंह के पुत्र महाराजा रणवीर सिंह ने कालका माता मंदिर रियासी का पुनः निर्माण अपने शासन काल के अन्तराल में शुभारंभ किया। उस काल में मंदिर की स्थिति अच्छी नहीं थी, लोक धारणा है कि पंडित जगतराम जी ने माता कालका की आज्ञानुसार मंदिर की साफ सफाई करके मंदिर को शोभायमान बनाया जिस से मंदिर की सुन्दरता में चार चॉद लग गयें। पंडित बास्कर नंद जी की माता श्रीमती रानी देवी जी ने बताया, कि अब हमारी पॉचवी पीढ़ी माता कालका की सेवा और भक्ती में लीन है तथा माता कालका मंदिर में जो भी भक्त श्रद्धा भाव से आगमन करता है माँ उनकी समस्त इच्छाओं को पूर्ण करती हैं। उन्होंने बताया माता कालका की रियासी जिले के निवासी तथा उन पर अपार कृपा है। सामान्य धारणा है कि जब–जब दुश्मन ने रियासी जिले पर आक्रमण किया तब–तब माता रानी ने रियासी की रक्षा की हैं। प्राचीन काल में जब भी दुश्मन रियासी पर हमला करता था तब अपने आप मंदिर से तोप का गोला दुश्मन पर प्रहार करके रियासी के नागरिकों की रक्षा करता था माता कालका मंदिर के निकट स्थानीय लोगों द्वारा कुछ अन्य मंदिर भी स्थापित हुए हैं जिनमें हनुमान मंदिर, शिव मंदिर, शनि मंदिर और शिमला माता मंदिर शामिल हैं। नवरात्रि में लोग यहा कन्या पूजन भी करते हैं। जम्मू कश्मीर सरकार को इन छिपे हुए धार्मिक स्थानों को उजागर करने तथा बढ़ावा देने हेतु आवश्यक कदम उठाने चाहिये।

नौ देवी मंदिर

लेखिकाः अंजना कुमारी, **Sem. IV**
निर्देशकः सुनील मगोत्रा
सहायक व्याख्याता

कटड़ा से दस किलोमीटर और अघार बाबा से छे किलोमीटर की दुरी पर स्थित नौ देवियां नामक मंदिर लोगों की आस्था का प्रतीक है। जहां न केवल राज्य या जिले भर के श्रृद्धालु माता के दर्शनों के लिए आते हैं , बल्कि देश भर से भी बाहरी राज्यों के श्रृद्धालु यहां आकर माता का आशिर्वाद प्राप्त करते हैं। मुख्य सड़क से माँ के मंदिर तक जाने तक जाने के लिए केवल दौ सौं सीढ़ियां ही हैं , जिस पर चलकर श्रृद्धालु बड़ी ही आसानी से मंदिर तक पहुंचकर माँ के दर्शन करते हैं। हर समय माँ के जयकारों से गुंजतां स्वर पुरे आस–पास के वातावरण को सुशोभित करता है। नौ देवियों के रूप में माँ एक छोटी – सी नदी के किनारे एक प्राचीन गुफा मे विराजमान है। माँ के यह नौ रूप –

१ शैल पुत्री
२ व्रह्मचारणी
३ चंद्र घंटा
४ कूष्माण्डा
५ स्कन्द माता
६ कात्यानी
७ कालरात्रि
८ महागौरी और
९ सिद्धदात्री हैं

माँ का सर्व प्रथम रूप 'शैल पुत्री' का है। जिसका अर्थ है 'शिखर'। हिमालय में अवतार लेने के कारण माँ को पर्वत पुत्री यानि शैल पुत्री के नाम से जाना जाता है।

'ब्रह्मचरणी' माँ का दूसरा रूप है– अनंत में व्याप्त , अनंत में गतिमान , आसीम विद्या की देवी के रूप में इस माँ को पूजा जाता है।

सभी प्रकार की छायाओं के बीच एक ही ध्वनि उत्पन्न करने वाली , सारी देवी शक्तियों का उद्भव करने वाली ,मस्तक पर घंटे के आकार का अर्द्ध चंद्र अंकित करने वाली माँ का ये तीसरा रूप 'चंद्र घंटा' के नाम से जाना जाता है

पुरे ब्रह्माण्ड की रचना करने वाली माँ का यह चौथा रुप 'कूष्माण्डा' का है।

'स्कन्द माता' माँ का पंचम रूप हैं जिनके दर्शनों से मनुष्य को व्यवाहरिक ज्ञान की प्राप्ति होती है। छठा रूप माँ का 'कात्यानी' का है।जो न केवल मानव के क्रोध को शांत करती है बल्कि उसके भीतर पनपने वाली नकरात्मक ऊर्जा को भी नष्ट करती है।

माँ के सबसे विनाशकारी रूप का नाम 'कालरात्रि' है। यह दुर्गा माँ की सातमी शक्ति है। इनके तीन नेत्र हैं और मुख से अग्नि निकलती है।

'माँ गौरी' माँ का आठवाँ रूप है – इनके आभूषण और वस्त्र श्वेत रंग के हैं। माना जाता है कि शिव को प्रसन्न करने के लिए इन्होने कठोर तपस्या की थी और इस दौरान इनका रंग भी अत्यधिक काला पड़ गया था। लेकिन इनकी तपस्या से खुश होकर भगवान् शिव ने इनके शरीर को गंगा के पवित्र जल से धोकर कांतिमय बना दिया था। इसिलए यह माँ 'महागौरी' के नाम से जानी जाती है।

माँ दुर्गा जी की नौवीं शक्ति का नाम 'सिद्धदात्री' है। ये सभी प्रकार की सिद्धियाँ को देने वाली है। नवरात्र के नौवें दिन इनकी पूजा की जाती है।

माँ के इन्हीं नौ रूपों की पूजा नवरात्रों में बारी –बारी से पूरे नौ दिनों तक यहां विशेष रूप से की जाती है। यही कारण है कि भक्तजन कटड़ा माता वैष्णो देवी मन्दिर के दर्शनों के बाद , यहां नौ देवी मंदिर में आने से नहीं चूकते।

रियासी दा खूहै आह्ला मंदर

लेखिका :– मंजू शर्मा
कलासः– बी•ए
निर्देशकः डॉ• शिव कुमार खजूरिया

रियासी इक इतिहासक कस्बा ऐ। एह्दे इक्क–इक्क थ्हारै दी अपनी गै म्हता ऐ। जि'यां भीमगढ़ किला, वजीर जोरावर सिंह दा मैह्ल, पराने मैह्ल, महादेव मंदर, गणेश जी दा मंदर, भारत माता दा मंदर, माता कालका दा मंदर, शीतला माता दा मंदर, महावीर जी दा मंदर ते आप शम्भू भोले शंकर दा महादेव मंदर। इन्हे सारे थ्हारें दी अपनी इक बक्खरी पंछान ऐ, वक्खरा इतिहास ऐ, वक्खरी गे क्हानी ऐ ते इतिहास च टकौदा थ्हार ऐ। इ'यां गै रियासी दा खूहै आह्ला रघुनाथ जी दा मंदर बी सांसकृतिक ते इतिहासक नजर च कुसे थमां बी पिच्छे नेईं ऐ।

मंदरै दा इतिहासः–

इक्क धर्मात्मा वावा सखन दास जेह्के ग्रां सैंसधार, तसील अखनूर च अपने गुरु कन्नै र्‌हौंदे हे। इक्क दिन उन्हें अपने गुरु थमां इक्क भव्य मंदर वनोआने दी आज्ञा मंगी जेह्की उन्हे सखनदास होरें खुशी–खुशी देई दित्ती ही। आज्ञा थ्होंदे गै वावा सखन दास होर मंदर वनोआने आसतै थ्हार तुप्पदे–तुप्पदे रियासी आई पुज्जे। थ्हार ते उन्हे चुनी लैता पर, उन्हे गी इक्क चिंता होर सतान लग्गी पेई जे उसलै सिवा अंजी दे जां फ्ही दरेया च्नाह् दे होर कोई पानी दा साधन गै नेहा। उसलै रियासी च छड़े तला गै हे। जिंदे च वरसांती पानी होंदा हा ते सोयै सुक्की जंदे हे। इसकरी पैह्लै उन्हे खूह् कड्ढने दी सोची। अज्जै थमां 200 ब'रे पैहलै 125 फुट डूंहगा खूह् कड्डी दित्ता, जिसी वनाने लेई पत्थर दे चुने दा इस्तेमाल कीता गेआ। खूह् निकली गेआ पर पानी दा निशान गै नेईं हा। वावा सखन दास होरे गी चिंता होई गेई ते चिंता दे निवारन आस्तै ओह् गुरु होंदे कोल सैंसधार जाई पुज्जे।

गुरु होरे आक्खेआ जे तूं आज्ञा ते मंदर बनोआने दी लैती ही ते कड्ढी टकाया खूह्, पानी कियां औना?

पानी आनने आस्तै तुगी 3 दीन खूहै च गै रेही तपस्या करनी पौनी ऐ ते पूरे रियासी कस्वे दे लोकें आस्तै 'जग' धाम' दा सरीसता करना पौना ऐ। रुट्टी वेशक तला दे पानी कन्नै वनोआया पर, पीने लेई तला दे पानी ादा इस्तेमाल नी करेआं, जिसलै रुट्टी त्यार होग खूह् च पानी अपने आप आई जाग। अपने गुरु

दा आक्खा मन्नी सखन दास होर पुरे अट्ठ दिन खुह् च गै रेह् जि'यां अठमे रोज जगै दी रुट्टी त्यार होई, खुह् च पानी दी सीर फुट्टी निकली आई।इक बड़ी र्‌हानी आह्ली गल्ल ऐ जे खूह् च पानी कुत्थुं दा आया की जे उस्सै भू–विभाग दे अग्गे–पिच्छे 300 फुट्ट दी डूंगाई पर पानी दा नां निशान नी थ्होआ ते फ्ही 125 फुट उप्पर पानी कियां आई गेआ । एह् अजे बी इक रहस्य बने दा ऐ।

ओह्दे परैंत वावा सखन दास होरे उन्थै गै श्री रघुनाथ जी दा भव्य मंदरै दा र्निमान करोआया, जेह्का अज्ज बी रियासी दी शान ऐ। एह् मंदर कोई 45 फुट उच्चा ऐ, जेह्दे उप्पर खालसा पितलू दा कलश लग्गे दा ऐ जेह्का अज्ज बी नमां नकोर सेई होंदा ऐ। इस मंदरै दे निर्माण लेई जिन्ना बी पानी इस्तेमाल होआ, ओह् सारा दा सारा खूहै चा कड्डी गै इस्तेमाल कित्ता गेआ।

इस खूहै दी गैह्राई पानियै दे लैवल तक 100 फुट ऐ ते 25 फुट एह्दे च पानी ऐ। एह्दे च 100 फुट लज्ज पेदी ऐ

इसदा पानी सोयै ठंडा ते सेआले गर्म होंदा ऐ। एह्दा पानी केईंये बमारियें लेई करामद ऐ। रघुनाथ जी दा मंदर ते एह् खूह् लगवग 200 बरे पराने न।

इत्थूं तगर पुज्जने दे दो रस्ते नः–

पैह्ला :– बस अड्डे थमां बजारो–बजार चौक–चवूतरे तक ते फ्ही चौक–चवूतरे थमां खलकी वक्खी महादेव मंदरै आह्ली गली च 300 मीटर अग्गे जाई एह् खूहै आह्ला मंदर औंदा ऐ, जेह्दे अंदर पंते दा घर बी ऐ।

दूआः– महादेव महल्ले च औंदा ऐ। एह् महादेव मंदरे थमां 500 मीटर ऊपरली वक्खी ऐ।

वावा सरवन दास होंरे श्री राम चन्द्र होंरे गी अपना चेला वनाया ते रघुनाथ मंदर ते खूह् उन्हें गी सौंती दीत्ता। राम चंद्र होंदे परैंत श्री कृपा राम होर रघुनाथ मंदरै दी दिक्ख–रिक्ख करदे रेह् ते फ्ही स्व श्री देव राज होर ते अज्ज–कल प•कृश्ण लाल होर इस मंदरै दे पुजारी न। इस मंदरै दी ते खूहै दी बड़ी म्हता ऐ। खूहै आह्ला मंदर वड़ा गै मशहूर मंदर ऐ। इस मंदरै च राम लखन ते सीता माता दी मुर्तियें दे अलावा वावा सखन दास दी समाधी वी मंदरै दे वाह्र चवुतरे च बनाई गेदी ऐ। जेह्की इस धर्मात्मा दा चेता नोआंदी ऐ। जिस्सने रियासी गी खूह् ते रघुनाथ मंदरै जेनही वरासत देई मालामाल कीत्ता।

रियासी दा सिरमोर लेखक ''राज राही''

लेखकः डॉ शिव कुमार खजूरिया,
सहायक व्याख्याता

एह् मेरे आस्तै बड़ी खुशी ते सोभाग्य दी गल्ल ऐ जे डोगरी दे नामवर क्हानीकार 'श्री राज राही हुंदे अप्पर लेख लिखने दा मौका मिलेआ ऐ.

''हजारों साल नरगस अपनी बेनूरी पर रोती है
बड़ी मुशकिल से पैदा होता है चमन में दीदावर कोई''

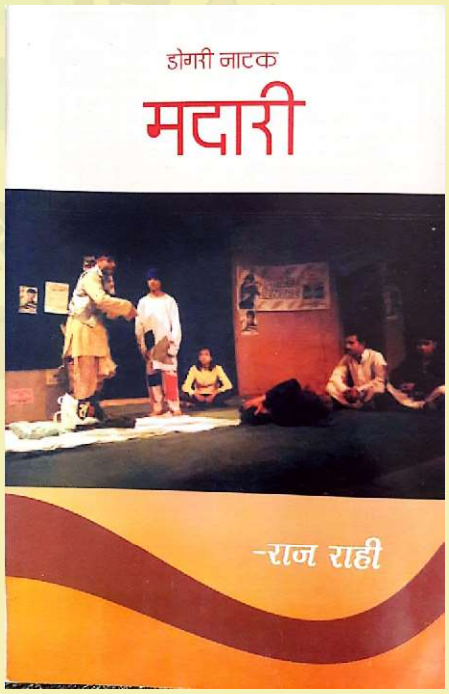
ओह् दीदावर राजराही होर न, जिन्हें रियासी दी धरती च जन्म लेईयै डोगरी भाशा गी मालामाल करी दित्ता। ओह् डोगरी भाशा दे विकास ते बाद्धे आस्तै निरंतर प्रयत्यनशील न। अज्ज उंदा नांऽ जम्मू दे लखारियें च इक ऐ। जदूं कदें डोगरी दे क्हानीकारें दा नांऽ लैता जंदा तां श्री राज राही हुंदी चर्चा जरुर होंदी, भामें ओह् थाह्र दिल्ली होऐ जां बम्बई। राज राही होरें डोगरी च लेखन करियै इतिहास च रियासी दा पैह्ला लखारी ते क्हानीकार होने दा गौरव हासल कीता ऐ। राज राही हुंदा असली नांऽ राज कुमार शर्मा ते निक्का नांऽ राजी ऐ। इन्दा जन्म सन् 1959 ई॰ गी प॰ धनी राम ते माता सोमा देवी दे घर ग्रांऽ करैनी च होआ। इसलै एह् वार्ड न॰1, हाऊस न॰4, नमीं बस्ती रियासी च र'वा करदे न। इंदी मुंडली पढ़ाई प्राईमरी स्कूल करैनी, कैम्बल डंगा रियासी ते फ्ही इन्हें डोगरी शिरोमनी दी डिग्री जम्मू यूनीर्वस्टी थमां हासल कीती। इ'नेंगी एक्टिंग दा ते लिखने दा शौक बचपन थमां गै हा। इ'ने लिचना 1976 च शुरु कीत्ता। एह् स्टेज पर पैह्ली बारी 1982 च चढ़े।

जनम : 7 फरवरी 1959 (करैनी)
पिता : स्व० श्री धनी राम शर्मा
माता : श्रीमती सोमा देवी शर्मा
निवास : वार्ड नं० 1, हाऊस नं० 4, पोस्ट आफिस, तसील ते जिला रियासी – 182311
मो : 94191–66063
प्रकाशत रचनां : 1. जींदा शहीद (क्हानी संग्रैह्)
2. असली वारस (क्हानी संग्रैह्)
3. मदारी (डोगरी नाटक)
4. बाँसरी दी तान (क्हानी संग्रैह् – दुंदे हत्थें च)
5. जागदा ब्रुन (बाल नाटक – शीराज़ा डोगरी च)
6. रियासी इक सांस्कृतक सर्वेक्षण (डोगरी लेख – लाड़ा साहित्य 2008–2010 च)
विशेष : क्हानी 'फैसला अपना–अपना' ते दूरदर्शन केन्द्र जम्मू द्वारा फिल्म त्यार कीती गेई जेह्दी 04–08–2007 गी डी० डी० नैशनल उप्पर प्रसारत कीती गेई)
सदस्य : 1. मैम्बर कार्यकारिणी कमेटी डोगरी संस्था जम्मू
2. प्रधान सैवन स्टार आर्ट क्लब रियासी
3. प्रधान सलाहकार संगम थिएटर ग्रुप रियासी
4. मैंबर डोगरी साहित्य सभा रियासी
5. 'संखनाद' (अर्द्धवार्षिक) खोज–पड़ताल पत्रिका
सम्मान : त्रिकुटा साहित्य संगम कटड़ा
सबरंग कला संगम, रियासी
इनोवेटिव एण्ड क्रिएटिव यूथस्स मीट, उधमपुर
दुर्गा नाटक मंडली रियासी
सनातन धर्म सभा रियासी
संगम थिएटर ग्रुप रियासी
कटड़ा कल्चर आर्गनाईज़ेशन
गो० हाई स्कूल गुन्छरा
(द्वारा चीफ एज्यूकेशन आफिसर रियासी)

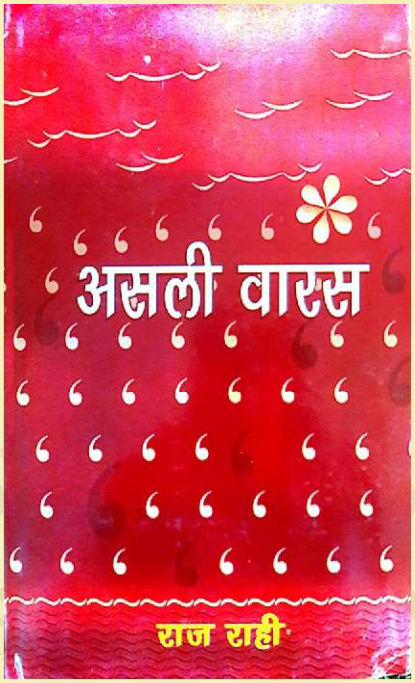
राज राही (राजकुमार शर्मा)

इन्हे पैह्ला हिन्दी च लिखना शुरु कीता पर, डोगरी दे नामवर क्हानीकार ते अलोचक श्री ओम गोस्वामी होंदे आक्खने पर इन्हे डोगरी च लिखना शुरु कीता। राही होर इस गल्लै बड़े भाग्यशाली रेह् जे उ'नेगी डॉ ओम गोस्वामी हुंदा श्शियत्व प्राप्त होआ। गोस्वामी होरें राज होरें गी लिखने गी तकनीक दस्सी। ओह्दा नतीजा एह् होआ जे इंदी पैह्ली कविता (डोगरी) 'खोखले हासे' शिराजा डोगरी च 1985 ई॰च छपी जेह्ड़ी नामवर क्हानीकारें च चर्चा दा विशे बनी गेई ही। क्हानी पढ़ियै पद्म श्री प्रो॰ राम नाथ शास्त्री होरें आखेआ :–

'' राज राही दी क्हानी पढ़ियै मिक्की मुंशी प्रेमचंद दी क्हानी 'कफ्फन' चेता आई गेई ऐ। बड़े चिरै परैंत इक शैल क्हानी पढ़ने गी थ्होई, राज राही दी



एह् क्हानी वाकेई नरेन्द्र खजूरिया दी क्हानी '' कास्तु दा काला तितर'' आंगर मील दा पत्थर साबत होग''।



राज राही रियासी दे पैह्ले लेखक न जिंदे

1 जींदा श्हीद (क्हानी संग्रैह्) 2002
2 असली वारस (क्हानी संग्रैह्) 2009
3 वौंसरी दी तान (क्हानी संग्रैह्) 2016
4 नमें टन्नल (क्हानी संग्रैह्) प्रैस च
5 मदारी (डोगरी नाटक्) 2012
6 रियासी इक सांस्कृत सर्वेक्षण (डोगरी लेख्) 2012
7 जानवर कु'न (डोगरी बाल नाटक्) 2013

ते 7 लेख प्रकाशित होई चुके दे न।

राज राही होर इसले तगर 72 क्हानियां लिखी चुके देन जेह्ड़ियां शिराजा, नमी चेतना, निम्मा मोह्रा, कश्मीर टाईम, जम्मू प्रभात जनेहिए पत्रिकाएं च छपी चुकी दियां न।

इंदिएं किश क्हानिएं दे अनुवाद हिन्दी, अंग्रेजी, पंजावी ते कश्मीरी भाशाएं च बी होई चुके दे न।

राज राही हुंदे क्हानी संग्रैह् 'जींदा श्हीद' ते 'असली वारस' उप्पर जम्मू यूनीवर्सटी दे डोगरी विभाग च पि. एच. डी. दा शोध कम्म बी होई चुके दा ऐ।

सम्मान

1 त्रिकुटा साहित्य संगम, कटड़ा, 25•02•2003
2 इनोवेटिव एवं क्रियटिव पयूपल मीट 25•05•2003
3 सवरंग कला संगम रियासी 12•07•2003
4 दूर्गा नाटक मंडली रियासी
5 संगम थियेटर ग्रुप रियासी 18•11•2011
6 सनातन धर्म सभा रियासी
7 हाई स्कूल कटड़ा 19•12•2009
8 दैनिक कश्मीर टाईम्स जम्मू 2010
9 डोगरी संस्था जम्मू 2011
10 कटड़ा कल्चर आरगजाईजेश्न कटड़ा
11 रियासी कल्चर फैस्टीवल द्वारा श्री अजय नंदा सावका मंत्री जम्मू ब कश्मीर।

खीर च में इन्ना गै आखना चांह्गा जिन्ने डोगरी भाशा ते रियासी दा मान–सम्मान गी देस ते प्रदेस च बद्धाया, साढ़ा बी फर्ज बनदा ऐ, जे इस म्हान शखशियत उप्पर फुल्लें दी बरखा करचै। प्राथना करचै जे भग्वान उ'नेंगी लम्मी उम्र देऐ तां जे ओह् लगातार लिखदे र्होन ते रियासी दे मान–सम्मान गी इन्ना उच्चा लेई जान ते लोग रियासी गी उंदे नांऽ कन्नै जान्न। एह् बी आक्खना बधीक नेईं होग जे जित्थै इस बेल्लै बधीक नेंईं होग जे जित्थै इस बेल्लै राज राही खड़ोई गेदे न, हुन औने आह्ले रियासी दे लखारियें दी लाईन उत्थूं दा गै शरू होनी ऐ।

ہمارا ضلع ریاسی

مضمون نگار: اکرور سنگھ محروم
طالب علم سمسٹر ششم

نگران: ڈاکٹر سلیم احمد
صدر شعبہ اردو ڈگری کالج ریاسی

ریاست جموں وکشمیر کے حسن وخوبصورتی کا موضوع جب بھی قلم بند یا زیرِ نظر کیا جاتا ہے تب ہی اس کے حسن و جمال رکھنے والے دلکش خطہ ریاس کا ذکر آنا لازمی ہے اور ایسا ہونا کوئی خاص بات نہیں کیونکہ جموں وکشمیر میں رہنے والا ہر مقیم یا باشندہ اس حسن سے پوری طرح آشنا ہے ریاسی شہر کی خوبصورتی کو چار چاند لگانے والا اسی کا ایک قیمتی جز بھیم گڑھ فورٹ جو اس شہر کے جنوبی حصے میں آباد ہے اپنے حسن کی آب وتاب دلکشی، دلربائی اور فرحت بخش خوبصورتی کی جاذبانہ کشش سے سیاحوں کو اپنی جانب کھینچنے میں کافی کامیاب رہا ہے۔ یہ قلعہ جسے تاریخ کے مطابق راجہ زور آور سنگھ نے ۱۸۱۷ء میں تعمیر کروایا تھا۔ رات کی چاندنی میں جب یہ حسن چمکنے لگتا ہے تو یوں لگتا ہے کہ گویا دیو لوک یا پرستان کوئی محل دھرتی پر آ گیا ہو۔ اس قلعے کی تعمیر ایسے اونچے اور واجب مقام پر واقع ہوئی ہے کہ دیکھنے سے ہی لگتا ہے کہ قدیم زمانے کا آرٹ یعنی فنِ تعمیر کتنا کامیاب اور بہترین تھا۔ وادی کے ایک ٹیلے پر جہاں یہ قلعہ آباد ہے اس مقام سے پورے ریاسی کے نشیب وفراز جگہوں کا نظارہ کیا جا سکتا ہے۔ یہاں کے لوگ کافی محنتی اور جفاکش ہیں یہاں کے لوگ ڈوگری زبان کے شائق اور بولنے والے ہیں جو جموں وکشمیر میں اب تک ڈوگرہ حکومت کے سرمائے کو سنبھالے ہوئے ہے۔ یہاں کے گوجر طبقہ کے لوگ اپنی گوجری زبان اور اپنے مذہبی و رسمی روایات کو اپنائے ہوئے اپنی تہذیب وتمدن اور ثقافت کو برقرار رکھے ہوئے ہیں جو ہمارے جموں وکشمیر کی ایک الگ پہچان ہے۔

قلعہ بھیم گڑھ کی یاد میں ایک کالج قائم کیا گیا ہے جو جنرل زور آور سنگھ میموریل ڈگری کالج ریاسی کے نام سے جانا جاتا ہے جہاں بہت سے اعلیٰ صلاحیت رکھنے والے اساتذہ صاحبان اور ایک جفاکش اور قابلِ کلیہ، قابلِ رہنما پرنسپل صاحب ہیں اس کالج کی ایک تصویر نیچے دی گئی ہے

یہ کالج ریاسی کے صدر کھڈ میں تعمیر کروایا گیا ہے جو ضلع اسپتال ریاسی کے بالکل قریب واقع ہے آس پاس اونچے اونچے برف پوش پہاڑ اور جنگل ہے جو تازہ اور پاک ہوا فراہم کرتے ہیں۔ ریاسی شہر کی آخری حد اور انتہا کو چھوتا ہوا دریائے چناب گزرتا ہے جس کے حسن و مناظر الفاظ میں بیان کرنا ناممکن ہے چونکہ اس کی خوبصورتی کا اندازہ لگانا ہو تو جاذبِ نظر درکار ہیں اتنا ضرور کہوں گا کہ جموں وکشمیر کی حسن و خوبصورتی کا اظہار تب تک نامکمل ہے جب تک دریائے چناب کا ذکر نہ کیا جائے جموں وکشمیر کا سب سے لمبا دریا ہونے کے ساتھ ساتھ ریاست کی تہذیب اور یادگار ثقافت کو اپنے سینے میں چھپائے رواں ہے۔ سلال کے مقام پر دریائے چناب کے پانی کو روک کر پن بجلی تیار کی جاتی ہے جو کہ پورے جموں وکشمیر میں اب تک کا سب سے بڑا پن بجلی تیار کرنے والا منصوبہ ہے اس خوبصورت خطے اور حسن کے ٹکڑے کی کیا مدح کروں اس کی خوبصورتی کا راز یہاں کے دلکش پہاڑوں، دریائے چناب، خوبصورت وادیوں اور لہلہاتے ہوئے کھیتوں سے پوچھیے اس مضمون میں میں نے اپنی ناقص عقل کو دوڑاتے ہوئے مختصراً جائزہ لیا ہے جو ایک ادنیٰ کوشش کا پہلو ہے اس میں غلطیاں سرزد ہونا واجب العقل ہے جو قاری کی پختہ خیالی پر چھوڑ دیتا ہوں۔

ہمارا گاؤں

مضمون نگار: گوپال سنگھ
طالب علم: سمسٹر ششم

زیرِ نگرانی: ڈاکٹر سلیم احمد
صدر شعبہ اردو ریاسی کالج

ہمارا گاؤں ریاسی شہر سے بہت دور ایک خوبصورت وادی اور پہاڑوں سے گھیرے ہوئے جنگل کے بیچ آباد ہے۔ جو کرونکوٹ کے نام سے جانا جاتا ہے۔ اس کی آبادی لگ بھگ ایک ہزار افراد پر مشتمل ہے یہ ایک بہت ہی شاندار اور عالیشان خطہ ہے یہاں کے لوگ کافی محنتی اور ایماندار ہیں۔ ہمارا گاؤں ایک خوبصورت علاقہ ہونے کے علاوہ امن اور خوشحالی کا بھی مرکز ہے اس سے پہلے تو ہم بجلی کی افزائش و آرام سے محروم تھے لیکن اب اس گاؤں میں بھی بجلی کے نظام کو قائم کیا گیا ہے۔ اور تقریباً ہر گھر میں بلب جلتا دکھائی دیتا ہے جس سے اور بھی اس گاؤں کی رونق میں اضافہ ہونے لگا ہے۔ اور ایک بڑی سڑک بھی بن گئی ہے جو گاڑیوں کی آمد و رفت کی لئے مناسب ہے گاؤں کے ہر بیمار شخص کے علاج کیلئے ایک نہایت عمدہ اسپتال کھولا گیا ہے جہاں ہنر مند اور قابل ڈاکٹر بھی بیماروں کے علاج کے لئے تعینات کیے گئے ہیں

ریاسی ایک اچھا اور ترقی یافتہ شہر ہے اور اس کی مزید ترقی کیلئے یہاں کے محنتی لوگ کام کر رہے ہیں ہمارے گاؤں سے بچے ابتدائی تعلیم حاصل کرنے کے بعد یہاں ریاسی کے اسکولوں میں اپنی تعلم کو آگے بڑھاتے ہیں اور پھر اعلیٰ تعلیم کیلئے ریاسی کالج جو کہ جنرل زور آور سنگھ میموریل ڈگری کالج کے نام سے مشہور ہے میں اپنی تعلیم حاصل کر کے آگے یونیورسٹی تک پہنچتے ہیں۔ ہمارے گاؤں سے ریاسی کالج تک کا سفر تقریباً ستر ۷۰ کلومیٹر ہے اور یہ مسافت ہم گاڑی کے ذریعے ہی طے کرتے ہیں۔ ہمارے گاؤں میں لوگ زیادہ تر کھیتی باڑی کا کام کرتے ہیں۔ اور اسی کو اپنا پیشہ سمجھ کر ترقی کی راہیں طے کرتے ہیں۔ یہاں کی عمدہ فصلوں میں چاول، گیوں، باجرہ اور مکی شامل ہیں۔ ستر فیصد لوگ غریب ہیں اور مزدوری کرنے پر مجبور ہیں۔ اس مضمون کو زیادہ طوالت نہ دیتے ہوئے اقبال کے اس شعر کے ساتھ ختم کرتا ہوں کہ:

جس کھیت سے دہکاں کو میسر نہ ہو روزی
اس کھیت کے ہر خوشہ گندم کو جلا دو

ریاسی کی پہچان

مضمون نگار: ناظم علی
طالب علم: سمسٹر ششم

زیرِ نگرانی: ڈاکٹر سلیم احمد
صدر شعبہ اردو ریاسی کالج

ریاست جموں وکشمیر کے تمام اضلاع کی طرح ضلع ریاسی بھی اپنی ایک الگ پہچان بنائے ہے۔اس کی کئی وجوہات ہیں ان میں ایک وجہ تو یہ ہے کہ یہاں کچھ سیاحتی اور تبرکاتی مقامات واقع ہیں جن کی وجہ سے نہ صرف جموں وکشمیر میں بلکہ پورے برصغیر میں اس کی پہچان ہے۔ایک دو مقامات تو ایسے ہیں جن کی وجہ سے پوری دنیا میں ریاسی کا نام جانا جاتا ہے ان میں ایک تو دریائے چناب پر بننے والا دنیا کا سب سے اونچا ریلوے پل ہے اور دوسرے کٹرہ میں تعمیر ماتا ویشنو دیوی کا مندر ہے اس کے علاوہ دریائے چناب پر بنا پن بجلی سلال پروجیکٹ، سیاڑ بابا، بابا ڈنسر، شیو کھوڑی اور قلعہ بھیم گڑھ وغیرہ ہیں کچھ چھوٹے چھوٹے مقامات بھی واقع ہیں جو ثانوی حیثیت رکھتے ہیں۔

ایک تحقیق کے مطابق ریاسی کا نام راجہ رسیال نے اپنے نام پر رسیالسی رکھا تھا جو وقت کے ساتھ ساتھ بدلتا گیا اور بعد میں ریاسی کے نام سے جانا جانے لگا۔ضلع ریاسی میں کچھ ایسے قدرتی مناظر بھی دیکھنے کو ملتے ہیں جن کو دیکھ کر لوگ بار بار آنے کی چاہت رکھتے ہیں ان میں سیاحتی مقامات یعنی مرگ اور بالائی سطح کی ڈھوک ہیں جو لوگوں کو اپنی جانب کھینچے رکھتی ہیں۔

درگاہ سمبھل چوا بھی ریاسی کی شان بنی ہوئی ہے یہ درگاہ ریسی شہر سے تقریباً ۵ کلومیٹر کی دوری پر جنوب مغرب میں واقع ہے جہاں جمعرات کے دن کافی چہل پہل ہوتی ہے اور باقی دنوں میں بھی لوگ آتے جاتے اس درگاہ کی زیارت کرتے رہتے ہیں پیر بابا کرم شاہ کے نام سے منسوب ہے قلعہ بھیم گڑھ جو کہ جنرل زور آور سنگھ نے ۱۸۱۷ء میں تعمیر کروایا تھا بھی لوگوں کی آماجگاہ بنا ہوا ہے یہ قلعہ ایک بالائی مقام پر واقع ہے جس کی وجہ سے اس کی خوبصورتی میں دگنا اضافہ ہو جاتا ہے یہاں سے دریائے چناب کا نظارہ بھی کیا جا سکتا ہے طوطے اور کبوتر بھی اس قلعہ کی شان بنے ہوئے ہیں۔اُس وقت کا ایک کنواں بھی تعمیر ہے جس کے بارے میں کہا جاتا ہے کہ تب سے آج تک یہ کبھی خشک نہیں ہوا۔

ضلع ریاسی کے کُل ایک سو ستتر (۱۷۷) گاؤں ہیں جن میں مختلف ذات ونسل کے لوگ آباد ہیں یہاں انچاس (49%) فیصد مسلم آبادی اور اڑتالیس (48%) فیصد ہندو آبادی ہے باقی تین (3%) دوسرے مذاہب جن میں سکھ اور عیسائی شامل ہیں رہتے ہیں۔یہاں کے زیادہ تر لوگ غریب ہیں جن کا پیشہ زمینداری اور بھیڑ بکریاں چرانے کا کام ہے مختلف رنگ ونسل کے لوگوں کی وجہ سے مختلف زبانیں بھی بولی جاتی ہیں جن میں ڈوگری، گوجری، پہاڑی، ہندی، اردو اور کشمیری شامل ہیں لیکن ایک خاص بات یہ ہے کہ یہاں بے شک مختلف رنگ ونسل کے لوگ اور مختلف زبانیں بولنے والے ہوں لیکن آپسی بھائی چارہ اور قومی یکجہتی کی بنیاد پر سب ایک ہیں۔

ریاسی کالج

مضمون نگار: ڈاکٹر سلیم احمد
صدرِ شعبہ اردو ریاسی کالج

ریاست جموں وکشمیر میں جہاں کالجوں کی تعداد سو (۱۰۰) کے قریب ہے وہیں صوبہ جموں کے ضلع ریاسی میں کُل پانچ کالج ہیں ایک کالج در ماڑی میں ہے ایک کالج مہور (بھگہ) میں ہے ایک ریاسی تحصیل میں ہے حال ہی میں دو اور کالج دیئے گئے ہیں ان میں ایک ککریال (کٹڑہ) میں دیا اور ایک پونی میں دیا ہے کٹڑہ اور پونی کے کالج بہت جلد شروع ہو جائیں گے اور در ماڑی کالج سن ۲۰۰۸ء میں قائم ہوا تھا اور مہور کالج سن ۲۰۱۳ء میں قائم ہوا ریاسی کالج میرے موضوع کا عنوان ہے اس کا مختصر جائزہ لیا گیا ہے۔

ریاسی کالج جو کہ جنرل زورآور سنگھ میموریل ڈگری کالج ریاسی کے نام سے جانا جاتا ہے اس کالج کا انعقاد ۲۰۰۳ء میں ہوا تھا اور ایک چھوٹی سی چار کمرے کی عمارت میں ہی کالج کا کام کاج چلایا گیا۔ اس کالج کے پہلے پرنسپل پروفیسر بھولے ناتھ شرما تھے سب سے پہلے چند شعبا جات جن میں انگریزی، اردو، سیاسیات، ایجوکیشن، ہندی اور معاشیات ہی تھے بعد میں رفتہ رفتہ ضرورت کے مطابق دوسرے شعبا جات بھی قائم ہوئے۔ اور اس وقت تک جو جو شعبہ جات اس کالج میں قائم ہیں ان کی تفصیل درج ذیل ہے

نمبر شمار۔ شعبے کا نام	صدرِ شعبہ کا نام	اساتذہ کی تعداد
۱۔ شعبہ انگریزی	ڈاکٹر چندر موہن	۳
۲۔ شعبہ اردو	ڈاکٹر سلیم احمد	۱
۳۔ شعبہ ہندی	پروفیسر سنیل منگوترہ	۲
۴۔ شعبہ ڈوگری	شوکمار کھجوریہ	۱
۵۔ شعبہ معاشیات	پروفیسر ایثار العیوب	۱
۶۔ شعبہ سماجیات	پروفیسر سواتی دت	۲
۷۔ شعبہ سیاسیات	ڈاکٹر پریم سنگھ	۲
۸۔ شعبہ ایجوکیشن	ڈاکٹر راکیش بھارتی	۲
۹۔ شعبہ تاریخ	پروفیسر دھیرج کمار بدھروا ج	۱
۱۰۔ شعبہ نفسیات	پروفیسر ویے لتا	۲

۱۱۔	شعبہ حیوانیات	ڈاکٹر سریا پرتاپ سنگھ	۲
۱۲۔	شعبہ نباتیات	ڈاکٹر لکھوندر سنگھ	۲
۱۳۔	شعبہ ماحولیات	ڈاکٹر انشو گپتا	۱
۱۴۔	شعبہ ریاضی	پروفیسر کیول کرشن	۱
۱۵۔	شعبہ طبیعیات	راکیش سنگھ	۲
۱۶۔	شعبہ کیمیا	ڈاکٹر امت بھالی	۲
۱۷۔	شعبہ بایوٹیکنالوجی	پروفیسر کورب سنگھ	۲
۱۸۔	شعبہ کامرس	ڈاکٹر جگمیت کور	۲
۱۹۔	شعبہ کمپیوٹر	سنیل کمار	۲
۲۰۔	شعبہ کھیل	ششی کمار (PTI)	۱

اس کالج کے پہلے استاد ڈاکٹر پریم سنگھ ہیں جو اس وقت عارضی طور طعینات تھے اور تین چار سال عارضی نوکری کرنے کے بعد مکمل طور پر اس کالج کی شان بنے ہوئے ہیں۔ پروفیسر زبیر جو کہ ایجوکیشن کے استاد تھے اس وقت واحد مستقل عہدے پر تعینات تھے۔ غیر تدریسی عملے میں سریندر سنگھ اور شیخ محمد تب سے اب تک اس کالج میں اپنے فرائض انجام دے رہے ہیں۔

۲۰۰۳ء سے لیکر ۲۰۱۷ء تک چند ایک تبدیلیوں کے ساتھ اس کالج میں کچھ خاص ترقی نہیں ہوئی اس کی خاص وجہ ایک تو کالج کے پرنسپل جو وقتاً فوقتاً تبدیل ہوتے رہے ہیں اور دوسرے اساتذہ کی عدم دستیابی کی وجہ سے بھی اس ادارے کو کافی نقصان پہنچا۔ لیکن ۲۰۱۷ء کے بعد اس کالج میں تقریباً ہر ایک شعبے میں مستقل طور پر تعینات ہونے والے پروفیسر حضرات اور نئے پرنسپل کی آمد کی وجہ سے بہت تبدیلیاں دیکھنے کو ملی۔ نئے پرنسپل ایس۔ پی۔ سرسوت جو کہ اس سے پہلے کلہوترہ کالج میں بحیثیت انچارج پرنسپل تعینات تھے کے آنے سے ہی اس چمن ادبستان میں بہار آ گئی اور تیرہ چودہ سالوں کی جمودگی کو توڑتے ہوئے ایک سال کی مدت میں ہی پورے باغِ ادب میں قسم قسم کے پھول بکھیر دیئے بہتر سے بہتر بنانے کی کوشش آج کامیابی کی سطح کو چھو رہی ہے۔

یہ کالج بھی ریاست کے بڑے کالجوں میں شامل ہے دو منزلہ عمارت پر مبنی تقریباً چالیس سے ذائد کمرے ہیں یہاں مختلف دور دراز علاقوں سے بچے تعلیم حاصل کرنے آتے ہیں ایک بہت بڑا کتب خانہ بھی موجود ہے اور سائنس کے شعبوں میں اچھی اچھی لیبارٹری بھی بنائی گئی ہیں ایک مشترک لڑکیوں کا کمرہ بھی تیار کیا گیا ہے اور EDUSAT بھی اس کالج میں قائم ہے۔ اس کالج کے ترقیاتی کاموں کا جائزہ لینے کیلئے کئی صفحات درکار ہیں اگر وقت ملا تو کسی الگ مضمون میں اس کا تفصیلی ذکر کیا جائے گا لہذا اس مضمون یہیں ختم کرتا ہوں۔

﴿شکریہ﴾

Cuttural Corner

Republic Day Dance Drama on Child Labour .

Independence Day Folk Flare

March Past Salute to Nation

Celebrating Non Violence Week

Cultural Corner

Dance Drama Bharat
Kal Aaj aur kal

Skit Samaj ki Kureetiyan

A Glimpse from Drama Workshop

Celebrating Birth Anniversary
of Gen. Zorawar Singh

Cuttural Corner

A play-Taj Mahal Ka Tender

Saraswati Vandana

Nightingales in the Inter College Fencing Championship

Dance drama Menanace of Drug Addiction

Cuttural Corner

Feeling proud being an Indian

Rangeela Rajasthan

Rajasthani Folk Dance during
Inter College
Fencing Championship

Sourab Sharma
as General Zorawar Singh
in Republic Day Tableau

Exposure Visit under PMSSS

Wagah Border, Amritsar, Punjab

Guru Nanak Dev University Amritsar, Punjab

Sikh History Research Department (Khalsa College, Amritsar)

Khalsa College, Amritsar

Exposure Visit under PMSSS

Adminstrative Block,
Khalsa College, Amritsar

Students posing in front
of Khalsa College, Amritsar

NSS Unit, Khalsa College,
Amritsar

Library Staff
(Khalsa College, Amritsar)

Exposure Visit under PMSSS

Blood Donation Camp
(NSS Unit,
Khalsa College, Amritsar)

Golden Temple, Amritsar

Trilium Mall, Amritsar

St Stephens College,
University of Delhi

Exposure Visit under PMSSS

Joint Interaction
with staff and students,
St Stephens College

International Youth Hostel Mess,
Chanakyapuri, New Delhi

Nehru Planetarium, New Delhi

Nehru Memorial Museum Library,
Teen MurtiBhavan, New Delhi

Exposure Visit under PMSSS

Nehru Memorial Museum Library,
Teen Murti Bhavan, New Delhi

Miranda House
(University of Delhi)

Informal Interaction
with the Principal and Staff,
Miranda House, New Delhi

Hostel, Miranda House

Exposure Visit under PMSSS

Way to the Library of Miranda House

A Visit to Miranda House Hostel

Science Block,
Hindu College, New Delhi

Hindu College,
University of Delhi

Exposure Visit under PMSSS

Red Fort, Delhi

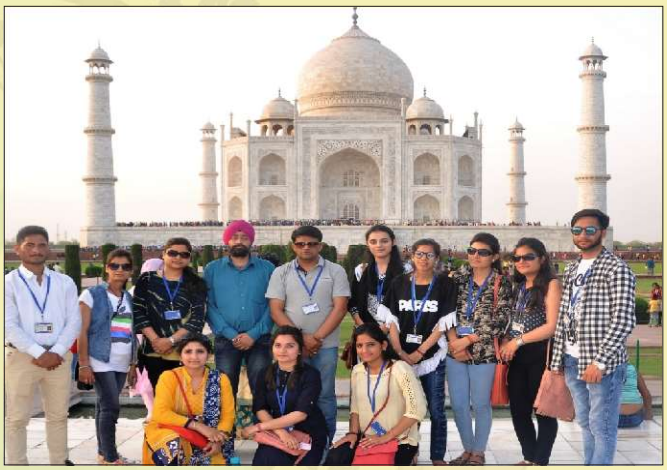
India Gate, New Delhi

Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi

Palika Bazar, New Delhi

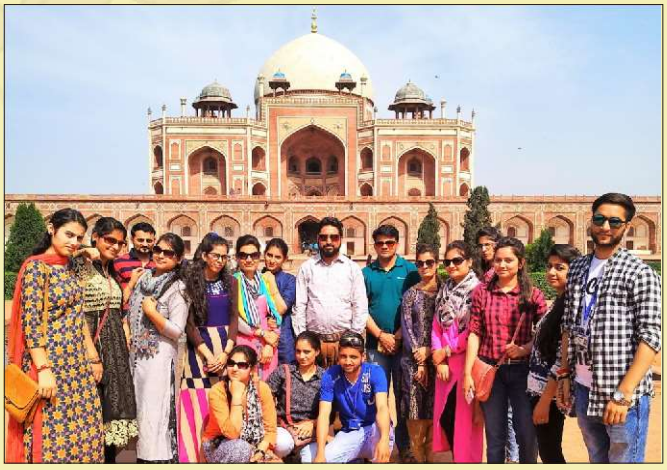
Exposure Visit under PMSSS

Agra Fort, Agra



Taj Mahal, Agra

Qutub Minar, Delhi



Humayun Tomb, Delhi

Activities by Department of Environmental Sciences

Swachh Bharat Summer Internship (SBSI) Program flagged off by Principal Dr. S P Sarswat & Nodal Officer, Dr. Anshu Gupta

Community level awareness in the areas selected for SBSI by team SBSI and Nodal Officer Dr. Anshu Gupta

Movie screening related to the message of Swacchta

Cleanliness drive and development of compost pits in the selected areas by SBS Interns

Activities by Department of Environmental Sciences

Cleanliness drive and development of compost pits in the selected areas by SBS Interns

Health and Hygiene camp by SBSI Team

Health and Hygiene camp by SBSI Team

Health and Hygiene camp by SBSI Team

Activities by Department of Environmental Sciences

Menstrual Health and hygiene camp for the females of the selected area (Gran Brotrian)

Menstrual Health and hygiene awareness camp for girls of Govt. Middle school Bidda, Zone Chanka, Reasi

Community level awareness related to waste segregation by SBSI Team

Rally related to promote Swachta involving school children of Govt. Middle School, Bidda

Activities by Department of Environmental Sciences

Rally related to promote Swachta involving school children of Govt. Middle school Bidda

Best out of waste activity organised for the children of Gran Brotrian by SBSI Team

"Best out of waste activity" organised for the children of Gran Brotrian by SBSI Team

Best out of waste activity organised for the children of Gran Brotrian

Activities by Department of Environmental Sciences

Door to door waste collection drive by SBSI Team

Wall paintings by SBS Interns related to the messages of Swacchta

Wall paintings by SBS Interns related to the messages of Swacchta

Wall paintings by SBS Interns related to the messages of Swacchta

Activities by Department of Environmental Sciences

Nukkad Natak related to message of Swachhta and removing Open defecation in selected area at community level as well as in Govt. Middle School, Bidda

Nukkad Natak related to message of Swachhta and removing Open defecation in selected area at community level as well as in Govt. Middle School, Bidda

Nukkad Natak related to message of Swachhta and removing Open defecation in selected area at community level as well as in Govt. Middle School, Bidda

Nukkad Natak related to message of Swachhta and removing Open defecation in selected area at community level as well as in Govt. Middle School, Bidda

Activities by Department of Environmental Sciences

World Environment day organised by Department of EVS

Nukkad Natak on the Theme "Say No to Polythene" on World Environment Day 2018

Outreach Program by deptt of EVS for making wall paintings related to " Swachhta" organised by NHPC on SwachhtaPakhwara from 18 to 21 Sept. 2018

Outreach Program by deptt of EVS for making wall paintings related to " Swachhta" organised by NHPC on Swachhta Pakhwara from 18 to 21 Sept. 2018

Activities by Department of Environmental Sciences

Outreach Program by deptt of EVS for making wall paintings related to " Swachhta" organised by NHPC on SwachhtaPakhwara from 18 to 21 Sept. 2018

Wall paintings by the students of Department of EVS, made in the college premises

Wall paintings by the students of Department of EVS, made in the college premises

Wall paintings by the students of Department of EVS, made in the college premises

Activities by Department of Environmental Sciences

Wall paintings by the students of Department of EVS, made in the college premises

Exhibition on the theme "Waste to wealth" by Department of EVS under Skill enhancement course of Solid waste Management

Students of Solid waste Management course bagged first prize in Intercollegiate competition on exhibition on the theme" Best out of Waste" held at GCW Udhampur held on 22nd January 2018

Exhibition cum sale of artifacts made out of waste organised by deptt. of EVS under skill course of Solid waste management

Activities by Department of Environmental Sciences

Exhibition cum sale of artifacts made out of waste organised by deptt. of EVS under skill course of Solid waste management

Exhibition cum sale of artifacts made out of waste organised by deptt. of EVS under skill course of Solid waste management

Exhibition cum sale of artifacts made out of waste organised by deptt. of EVS under skill course of Solid waste management

Felicitation ceremony of Swachh Bharat Summer Interns

NSS Unit Volunteers participating in different events

150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi by NSS Unit

A visit to District Hospital under Swatchta Pakhwara by NSS Unit

Visit to meet special children by NSS

A visit to Bhimgarh fort under Swatchta Pakhwara by NSS

NSS Unit Volunteers participating in different events

Drug de addiction programme
by NSS Unit

Dr. Amit Bali, NSS Co-ordinator
being honoured
by commissioner secretary,
Rajasthan during NIC.

National Integration Camp team
Jammu in university of Rajasthan
with programme officer
Dr Amit Bali

Winter special camp
by NSS Jan 02, 2019
to Jan 12, 2019

NSS Unit Volunteers participating in different events

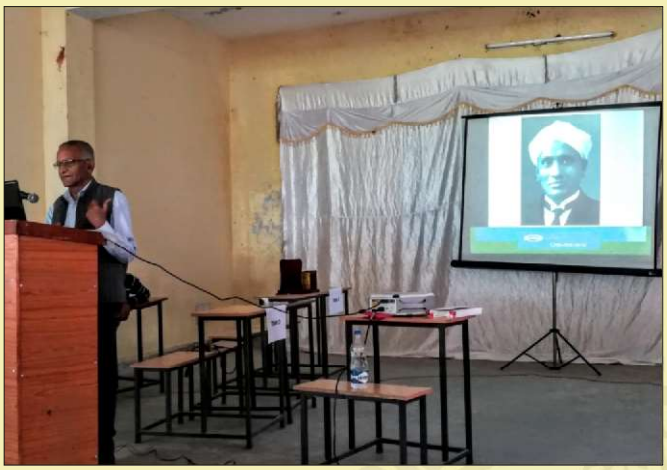
NSS winter special camp from Jan 02, 2019 to Jan 12, 2019

District Youth Parliament organised under the supervision of Nodal Officer Dr. Amit Bali

Awareness rally by NSS Unit in Reasi bus stand regarding Plastic, Drug Abuse and Road Safety

Celebration of Swami Vivekananda Jayanti by NSS Unit

National Science Day Celebrations by Science Club



Prof. R.N Gohil delivering a general Science talk on National Science Day

Students participating in Science Quiz

Science Day winners with Chief Guest

Dr. Lakhvinder Singh proposing Vote of Thanks on National Science Day

Wild Life Week Celebrations by Science Club

Judges going through wall paintings on the theme "Big cats : Predators Under Threat".

Awareness Programme on
WILDLIFE AND ITS CONSERVATION
3rd of Oct. 2018
Government General Zorawar Singh Memorial Degree College Reasi
J&K State Science, Technology & Innovation Council

Dr. Ranvijay Singh delivering guest lecture on Wildlife and its conservation.

Dr. Vikas Dogra delivering guest lecture on Birds and prerequisites for bird watching.

Science Club organising Wild life Quiz

Wild Life Week Celebrations by Science Club

Prizes being awarded to winners

Group photos of winners with Chief Guest and Judges.

Sports Corner

Hardeep Bhagat won Gold Medal in District Fencing Championship 2018 organized by SMVDSB Katra.

Sourab Sharma Won Gold Medal in Super Heavy Gold Inter College Boxing Championship 2018

College Fencing Team posing with Principal before leaving for All India Inter University Fencing Championship 2019 at GNDU, Amritsar

Kamal Kumar and Tariq Hussain during All India Inter University Fencing Championship 2019 at GNDU, Amritsar

Sports Corner

Hardeep Bhagat during Thailand Open Fencing Championship 2018 at Bangkok, Thailand

Kamal Kumar won Bronze Medal in All India Inter University Fencing Championship 2018

Bronze Medal winners (Gulair Singh, Hardeep Bhagat and Rohit Kumar) in All India inter University Fencing Championship 2019 at GNDU, Amritsar

Girls' Fencing Team lifts overall championship trophy 2018-19 in Inter-collegiate Fencing Championship organised at Zorawar Singh Memorial Degree College, Reasi

Sports Corner

Boys Fencing Team won overall championship trophy in Inter collegiate Fencing Championship 2018-19

All India inter university Fencing Championship 2019 at GNDU, Amritsar

All India inter University Fencing Championship 2019 at GNDU, Amritsar

DC Reasi, Sh. Prasanna Ramaswamy inaugurating inter collegiate fencing Championship 2018-19

Sports Corner

Match in action during Inter College Fencing Championship 2018-19 organised by the college.

Chief Guest, Honorable MLA Sh. Ajay Nanda ji while inaugurating the final bout in Girls Foil section during inter collegiate Fencing Championship.

Sourav Sharma student of 4 sem (Gold in Discuss,bronze in shot put and javellin throw),Shabnam Bano of 4 sem (Silver in high jump), Ajay Kumar of 4 sem (Gold in 400 mtrs) and Kamal Kumar bronze in inter university

College Cyclists participated in cycle rally organized by Indian Army on the eve of Independence Day 2018.

Sports Corner

Inter collegiate wrestling tournament
1. Ajay Kumar (Silver)
2. Manjeet Singh(Bronze)

Annual Athletic Meet of
Jammu University 2018

Annual Athletic Meet of
Jammu University 2018

Annual Athletic Meet of
Jammu University 2018

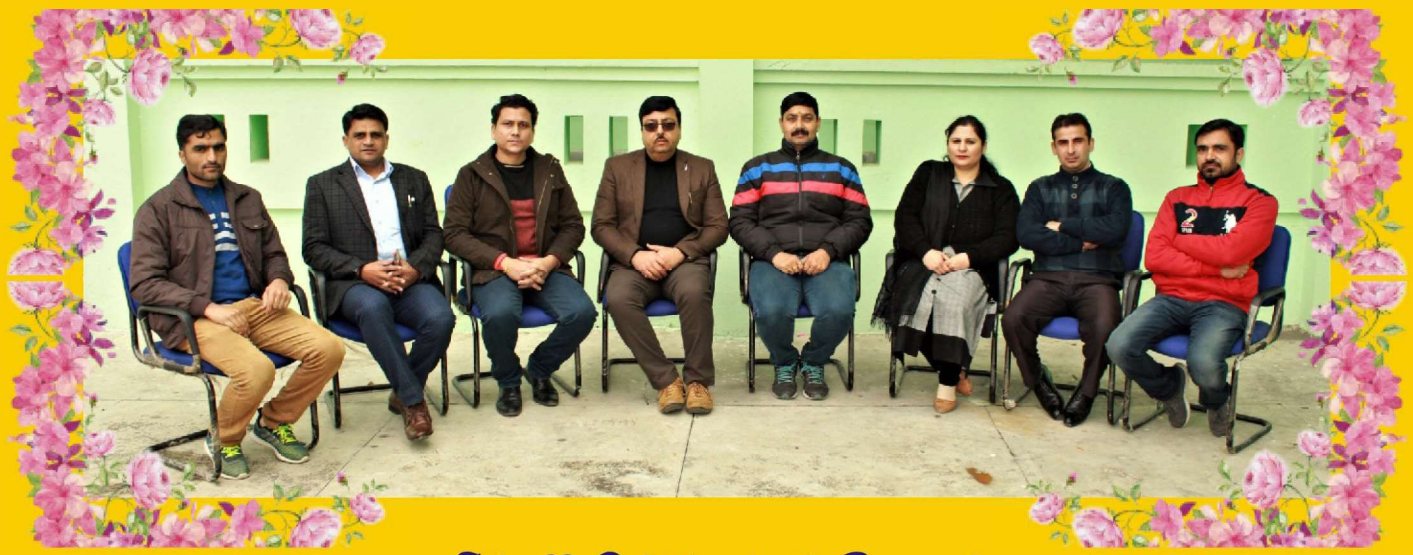
Sports Corner

College Cricket Team during Inter Collegiate Cricket Tournament at University of Jammu

Archers Amit Thakur and Anup Verma hitting the target in 50 meter compound division, Inter Collegiate Archery Championship at University of Jammu

Archers Smilee Thappa (Gold Medal), Amit Thakur (Gold Medal) and Anup Verma (Silver Medal) with their coach Kuldeep Kumar Vedwan

Archer Smilee Thappa hitting the target in 50 meter compound division, Inter Collegiate Archery Championship 2018



Staff Editorial Board

Student Editors

About Rasyalsi

The magazine takes its title from the old name of the District Reasi- Rasyalsi. The erstwhile Bhimgarh State, now called Reasi, was established by Bhim Dev in the Eighth Century. The name of Reasi is derived from the first ruler of this Riyasat, Raja Raspal who named it as Rasyalsi after his name. With the passage of time 'Rasyalsi' transformed to 'Reasi'.

The District is predominantly a Hill District, which enjoys variable climatic conditions, ranging from sub-tropical to semi temperate. The District is known for its famous historical and religious places namely Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine, Bhumika Temple, Deva Mai, Aghar Jitto, Nau Pindian, Baba Dhansar, Dera Baba, Siar Baba, Bhimgarh Fort, Kalika Temple, Sula Park, Shivkhori etc., besides its picturesque locale and surroundings. Salal Hydroelectric Project, popularly known as Salal Dam on River Chenab is another unique fascination of the District.

The famous warrior General Zorawar Singh also resided in Reasi near Vijaypur and his old Haveli still exists in the locality. Reasi too has the privilege of being the birthplace of Maharaja Partap Singh, the grandson of Maharja Gulab Singh of Dogra Dynasty.